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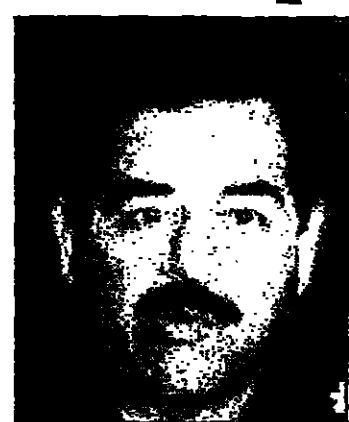
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Saddam agrees to joint military committee with Iran Iraq makes a move to revive peace talks

BAGHDAD, Jan 29, (AP): President Saddam Hussein today agreed to a United Nations proposal to set up a joint military committee with Iran, Baghdad Radio reported.

Diplomats in the Iraqi capital, speaking on condition of anonymity, said it was a significant breakthrough in UN efforts to revive stalled peace talks aimed at ending the eight-year-old Gulf war.

The radio did not elaborate what the committee's function would be.



Saddam Hussein

The talks broke down in Geneva on Nov 11. Iran has said it considers any further talks futile unless Iraq halted what it called delaying tactics.

Baghdad Radio reported that Saddam reiterated to Eliasson that Iraq rejects any pre-conditions set by Iran for resuming the Geneva negotiations.

Iran has stressed that before talks resume, Iraq has to unequivocally agree to the complete and immediate implementation of the Security Council resolution 598, including withdrawal of troops to the pre-war border.

Baghdad Radio said Saddam agreed to participate in the joint military committee and lift the flight ban "out of Iraq's keenness for the UN envoy's mission to succeed and its readiness to co-operate with him."

A spokesman for the UN mission, Gianni Picco, declined comment on yesterday's sessions or say whether face-to-face talks will resume soon.

But he stressed: "We'll leave no stone unturned in trying to achieve that."

Aziz said yesterday that Iraq is ready to resume the peace talks at any time and without pre-conditions.

Iran charges that Iraq is blocking an agreement by refusing to withdraw from some 260 square miles (1,000 square kilometres) of Iranian border territory captured in the final phase of fighting that halted on Aug 20.

Dispute

Iraq has countered that it will not pull back from the territory, until Iran agrees to surrender its right to search ships in the Gulf for Iraq-bound war material.

The two sides are also in dispute over the Shatt Al Arab waterway, their pre-war southern boundary.

Iraq insists that a 1975 treaty giving Iran navigation rights and drawing the border down the middle of the waterway was abrogated before Iraq invaded Iran, after weeks of border skirmishes, in September 1980.

Hopes

But the diplomats noted that a joint military group, working with the UN military observer group monitoring the Aug 20 ceasefire in the conflict, could signal hopes of a troop withdrawal by both sides.

The failure of the two sides to agree on a withdrawal, called for under a July 1987 UN Security Council ceasefire resolution, has been a major sticking point in the talks that have dragged on inconclusively for five months.

The official Iraqi Radio said Saddam agreed to the joint military committee during a



Sheikh Saad

Sheikh Saad to visit Iraq

KUWAIT, Jan 29, (Agencies): HH the Crown Prince and Prime Minister Sheikh Saad Al Rashid will visit Iraq on Feb 6 for talks aimed at strengthening relations.

Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs Rashid Al Rashid told reporters after a weekly cabinet meeting today, Sheikh Saad would hold talks designed to "strengthen bilateral ties and co-operation in various fields and discuss developments in the

Arab region."

"The Council of Ministers is confident that the visit will contribute to further strengthening of the fraternal bonds between Kuwait and Iraq," Rashid said.

Readiness

The talks are expected to cover the stalled Iraq-Iran peace negotiations. Sheikh Saad may also be apprised by the Iraqi leadership of the post-war reconstruction efforts.

The Crown Prince has expressed Kuwait's readiness to contribute to any international fund set up to finance reconstruction of Iraq and Iran.

Sheikh Saad was also likely to discuss an unresolved border issue between Kuwait and its northern neighbour. Earlier this month, Iraq's Vice-President Taha Mohieddin Masrouf and Foreign Minister Tariq Aziz said the border will be demarcated soon.

Israel and PLO 'may hold direct talks soon'

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, Jan 29, (AP): Pro-PLO leader Faisal Hussein, jailed without trial through most of the 13-month-long Palestinian uprising, was released today and said he envisions direct talks soon between Israel and the PLO.

"I believe that they (the Israelis) have decided that their enemy is the PLO and who do you make peace with but your enemy," he said.

Sigms

Hussein, who met in jail recently with Israeli government officials, predicted that signs of progress will emerge in the next few months in the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, but he refused to be specific.

He said he believed the PLO would support elections in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip, but added the balloting would have to be on the question of statehood and not for local representatives as suggested by some Israeli leaders.

Hussein spoke to reporters as he was released from prison and later at his home in Arab East Jerusalem. He also was interviewed on Israeli television.

He refused to directly confirm reports that he met in his prison cell with Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin's top adviser on the occupied territories, Shmuel Goren. But he said: "I prefer if Mr Goren speaks first."

Mujahedeen leader warns Afghan regime may try to give rebels a bad image

RIYADH, Jan 29, (Agencies): Afghan rebel spokesman Sibghatullah Mojaddidi warned that the Afghan government would launch a campaign of "plunder and sabotage and blame it on us," after the Soviet withdrawal, a newspaper reported today.

The warning by the Pakistan-based spokesman coincided with the arrival here of Pakistani Foreign Minister Yaqub Khan for talks with Saudi officials on the situation in Afghanistan in view of the impending Soviet military pullout.

Khan immediately conferred with his Saudi counterpart, Prince Saud Al Faisal.

Sabotage

The Saudi newspaper Okaz quoted Mojaddidi as saying in a telephone interview from Islamabad, Pakistan, that the communist government of Afghanistan was behind a scare campaign which had forced the United States and other Western embassies to close down and leave the Afghan capital, Kabul.

"They want to give the mujahedeen a bad image, and they are expected to plunder and sabotage and have it blamed on us" after the scheduled Feb 15 completion of the Soviet withdrawal, Mojaddidi said.

United Nations aid officials in Kabul have warned that the capital faces disaster because of dwindling supplies because of an intensifying rebel blockade.

Mojaddidi said the situation would stabilise only with the downfall of the Kabul government. He estimated that it would take the mujahedeen (holy warriors) "three to four months at most" to achieve their objective.

It was more than twice the number reported the previous week, which one diplomat described then as "triple the normal rate."

The diplomats said the aircraft deliver arms and ammunition for Kabul's communist government, or desperately needed food for civilians, then depart with hundreds of fully-equipped Soviet soldiers.

Two senior Soviet envoys flew in today from Moscow to assure continued economic aid to President Najibullah, an Afghan official said.

Discuss

The Soviet Finance Minister Boris Gostev and Yuri Maslukov, Moscow's First Deputy Prime Minister and chief of the state planning committee, arrived early today, just one day after a brief visit by Soviet Defence Minister Dmitry Yazhov, the source said.

During their two-day visit to Kabul both officials will discuss "prolonging co-operation in the economic field" with Najibullah, Prime Minister Mohammad Hassan Sharq and other senior Afghan officials, he added.

The number of Soviet military aircraft delivering supplies to Kabul and departing with Red Army troops rose sharply in the past week, Western diplomatic sources said today.

Western diplomats, speaking in Islamabad said the number of Soviet IL-76 transport planes landing and taking off from Kabul has averaged 18 a day since last Monday.

4 killed in Sri Lanka

COLOMBO, Jan 29, (AP): Suspected Sinhalese extremists raided the house of a governing United National Party councillor in southern Sri Lanka and stabbed him to death, military officials said today.

They said extremists shot to death two policemen and a civilian in an ambush, also in the Southern Province, raising to nine the death toll over the weekend.

Armed with grenades and automatic rifles, militants launched simultaneous attacks overnight on three police stations in or near the capital, killing four policemen and a civilian, police speaking on condition of anonymity said earlier today.

The killings were blamed on members of the Sinhalese-militant People's Liberation Front, headed by Rohana Wijeweera, a medical school dropout from Moscow's Patrice Lumumba University.

A government communiqué said 15 suspected militants had been arrested today during combined Army and police searches after the raids on police stations.

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- پاکستان کے ضمنی انتخابات میں قائد برادری
- اعلیٰ سوت کا حکام اچانک کاہل بن گئے
- پاکستانی وزیر خارجہ کے ریاض میں اہم مذاکرات
- راجیو گاندھی کا کینیڈا اور پاریس میں تبدیلیاں کریں گے
- بلوچستان کے گورنر موسیٰ خاں کو تبدیل کیا جا رہا ہے
- اعلیٰ حضرت شیخ سعدی گچہ
- پاکستان کی تازہ ترین سیاسی صورت حال پر اشرف شاہ کا تجزیہ
- دست اندازہ کو سٹونی ٹیسٹ میں شکست کا سامنا

WEATHER

FAIR weather with light northerly to north-westerly wind.

State of sea: slight

High water: 5.00 am, 5.00 pm

Low water: 11.00 am, 10.30 pm

Sunrise: 6.39 am

Sunset: 5.24 pm

Maximum temperatures recorded:

Kuwait: 17°C 63°F

Amman: 9°C 48°F

Falaka: 15°C 59°F

Minimum temperatures recorded:

Kuwait: 4°C 39°F

Amman: 1°C 34°F

Falaka: 8°C 46°F

Maximum humidity expected:

Kuwait: 19°C 66°F

Amman: 18°C 64°F

Falaka: 18°C 64°F

Maximum humidity recorded:

Kuwait: 63 per cent

Amman: 61 per cent

Falaka: 65 per cent

Arab League committee on Lebanon meets

TUNIS, Jan 29, (AP): The Arab League's committee of six, created to try to find a solution to the constitutional crisis in Lebanon, began its work today and was to review the positions of the various Christian and Muslim parties.

Discussions were to continue tomorrow and Tuesday, involving the principal personalities on the Lebanese political scene.

The crisis began when the Lebanese Parliament failed to elect a successor to President Amin Gemayel after his six-year term expired on Sept 22. As he bowed out, Gemayel named Army commander Gen. Michel Aoun, a Maronite Catholic, to head an interim military cabinet.

Struggle

Muslims and leftists rejected Aoun's nomination, charging it violated an unwritten 1943 covenant under which the premiership has been held by a Sunni Muslim, the presidency by a Maronite and the speakership of the Parliament by a Shiite Muslim.

Muslims and leftists pledged allegiance to the incumbent cabinet of Sunni Prime Minister Salim Al Hoss, who is backed by Syria. That created a struggle for legitimacy between the two

Faulty connection caused blackout

By Hussain Salamah

THE total blackout on Dec 13 last year occurred when a technician connected the power lines between the east and west Doha power stations without ensuring that their power frequencies were equal.

The Egyptian technician has been suspended, according to well informed sources.

Dr. Homoud Al Raobah, the minister of electricity and water has submitted the final report on the causes of the blackout to the Council of Ministers, the sources said. The report is expected to be discussed at the next council meeting.

Project

The sources also said that a project to establish a power station in Subiya area has been awarded to the Mitsubishi company of Japan. The new power station will be as big as the Al Zour station and its total output will be 2,400 MW and will consist of eight units. It will cost KD255 million to construct the new power station.

Rajiv may reshuffle cabinet to quell dissent

NEW DELHI, Jan 29, (UPI): Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi is likely to revamp his cabinet and the top echelons of the ruling party in a bid to quell dissent and bolster his support before elections which must be held this year, leading Indian newspapers said today.

The newspapers said pressure on Rajiv to make the changes had grown because of the crushing defeat the ruling Congress (I) Party suffered in Jan 21 elections for Tamil Nadu state assembly.

The elections were seen as a major test of Rajiv's ability to attract votes and the loss has reportedly fuelled dissent among Congress (I) Party lawmakers in several states, particularly Bihar, where a large number of its legislators are in open revolt against the chief minister.

The Times of India said that "political circles" in New Delhi felt that by shaking up his cabinet and top political lieutenants, Rajiv would demonstrate that he was still "very much in control of the party and the government" — despite the Tamil Nadu debacle and party infighting.

Rajiv would also show that he is "firming up his team and gearing up for the ... general elections," the newspaper said.

Rajiv has realigned his cabinet 25 times since winning office in December 1984 following the assassination of his mother and predecessor, Indira Gandhi. A number of the shakeups followed previous state election defeats.

The Sunday Observer of Calcutta said a meeting of the Congress (I) Party's working committee, its top policy-making body, scheduled for Tuesday could herald another overhaul.

The Sunday Mail said the Congress (I) Party is "presently involved in a major exercise to revamp its leadership ranks and the cabinet."

It quoted "highly placed party sources" as saying the party's six general secretaries, who oversee its affairs on a daily basis and are second in rank to the prime minister in his capacity as party president, have already submitted their resignations.

"This is a prelude to a large-scale restructuring of the party" (Continued on Page 2)

Jatoi elected, may lead the opposition

By-elections confirm strength of Benazir's party

ISLAMABAD, Jan 29, (Agencies): Pakistani by-elections confirmed the strength of Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto's People's Party, but its conservative opposition succeeded in electing a recognised leader, official results showed today.

Figures from the Pakistan Election Commission showed the turnout in yesterday's voting averaged just under 50 per cent as it did in general elections last November.

At stake were 13 seats in the 237-seat National Assembly, or lower house of Parliament, and seven seats in the provincial legislatures.

The Pakistan People's Party (PPP) won four National Assembly seats against seven for the opposition Islamic Democratic Alliance.

But all of the alliance's victories were in the populous state of Punjab where that group emerged strongest in the November elections.

Among the opposition's winners was Ghulam Mustafa Jatoi who suffered a humiliating defeat in his home district in southern Sindh province in the previous election.

This time he ran — and won — in Punjab constituency of Kot Addu. He is expected to lead the opposition forces on the National Assembly floor. But the opposition will remain outnumbered two-to-one by Benazir's party and its allies.

Contests

The remaining two National Assembly seats went to an independent and a candidate of a minor party.

In the provincial contests, PPP and the alliance each won three seats, and an independent party captured one seat.

The Election Commission awarded PPP one national and one provincial seat earlier because the party's candidates ran unopposed in those races.

IDA members who won National Assembly seats are: Jatoi, Mian Zahid Sarfaraz and Ghulam Mustafa Bajwa (Faisalabad district), Chaudhry Abdul Sattar (Sialkot), Maulana Rahmatullah (Jhang), Omar Hayat and Mian Mohammed Azhar (Lahore).

The PPP winners are: Federal Water and Power Minister Farooq Leghari (Dera Ghazi Khan) in the Punjab, Prince



Jatoi

of the late military strongman President Mohammad Zia-ul-Haq, established a power base in Punjab where it now controls the provincial legislature.

Zia died in a plane crash last August, clearing the way for the Bhutto forces' return to power.

Zia overthrew Benazir's father, Prime Minister Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, in a bloodless 1977 coup and ordered him hanged two years later after he was convicted of conspiring to murder a political opponent.

Of Pakistan's 48 million-strong electorate, only three million were entitled to vote in yesterday's polls. The contests took place in districts where candidates last November won more than one seat, or where the vote was postponed because a candidate had died.

Chief Election Commissioner S.A. Nusrat said yesterday's voting generally was calm and peaceful except for one district in the Punjab capital of Lahore where police waded in to break up a stone-throwing melee between PPP supporters and the opposition.

Nusrat said the disturbance did not disrupt voting.

Flights delayed

LONDON, Jan 29, (AP): Thick fog caused flight cancellations and delays at London's Heathrow airport today.

DAY BY DAY

NASSER AJAWI from HH the Amir's Studies and Research Bureau called to tell us that the bureau is entrusted with receiving and investigating any complaints from any citizen against any government ministry or department.

Citizens' complaints find direct response from HH the Amir, the official said and added that the bureau has a branch called "Citizens Welfare."

Awadi was replying to Zahed Matar's "Day by Day" which appeared in Sunday's Arab Times pertaining to the misuse of influence and authority by some government officials and which indicated that people found no one to whom they could complain or seek redress.

Zahed Matar

Tower calls for modernisation of NATO armament

MUNICH, Jan 29, (UPI): US Defence Secretary-designate John Tower renewed today his call for a modernisation of both conventional and nuclear armament within the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation.

Addressing a NATO defence conference in the southern German city of Munich, Tower said the alliance's need for a tactical surface-to-air missile system to replace its Lance missiles remained unchanged.

He told the 170 delegates, who included leading politicians, scientists and defence experts from NATO countries, the alliance also needed to modernise its artillery.

Tower said it was essential the alliance reaches a consensus on the need to modernise its nuclear and conventional defence systems as further delays would give the Soviet Union "the opportunity to undermine the unity of NATO."

Unity on the matter was "NATO's trump card," he said. Observers believe the remark was particularly directed at West Germany which has been hesitant to support calls for a modernisation of short-range missiles.

Before travelling to Munich, Tower had already called for a rapid modernisation of short-range nuclear missiles.

NATO says it has only 88 Lance missile launchers—with a 75 mile (120 km) range—in Western Europe, compared with 1,365 modern systems in East bloc countries, some of which have a 187 mile (300 km) range.

At the conference, West German Defence Minister Rupert Scholz called for a "drastic reduction of nuclear artillery," but said it was essential the nuclear weapons that would remain after such cuts should "be kept effective and modern" just as countries of the Warsaw Pact—the East bloc alliance—kept their systems up to date.

But he did not directly call for a "modernisation" of short-range nuclear missiles.

Observers believe both the United States and Britain have urged West Germany to clearly back the modernisation policy before Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev's planned visit to Bonn in spring.

British Foreign Secretary, Sir Geoffrey Howe also called for the modernisation of the Lance system, which he said would take several years.

However, a senior member of Chancellor Helmut Kohl's Christian Democratic Party, Alfred Dreger said at the conference West Germany wanted the "quantitative and qualitative minimum of nuclear weapons and not a bit more."

The politician called for a complete withdrawal of nuclear artillery from West Germany. He said the potential victims of short-range weapons would be "us Germans on both sides of the border."

The West German defence establishment is faced with a largely negative public image and polls show defence willingness is lower than at any time during the past quarter of a century.

US should release seized Iranian assets before improving relations

Velayati sees no obstacle to resume ties with UK

LONDON, Jan 29, (AP): Americans must "change their concept" of Iran and release billions of dollars of seized assets if the United States wants to improve relations, Iranian Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati was quoted as saying.

In a wide-ranging interview with The Observer newspaper, Velayati was quoted as saying he sees no obstacle to resuming relations with Britain, that he does not know the fate of British hostages in Lebanon and that the international community should do more to enforce the Iran-Iraq ceasefire agreement.

Change
"They (Americans) must change their concept of Iran," he was quoted as saying in the interview conducted in Tehran and published today.

Opposition protests retirement bill

TAIPEI, Jan 29, (AP): Thousands of supporters of the opposition Democratic Progressive Party marched through Taipei streets today to protest parliament's passage of a bill to give retiring lawmakers large pensions.

Shouting "full elections for parliament" and "old thieves step down," the protesters marched from three locations to the Chiang Kai-Shek memorial park in downtown Taipei for a rally.

Last Thursday, the lawmaking legislative Yuan approved a bill offering large bonuses to aging lawmakers who voluntarily retire. The old lawmakers were elected 42 years ago in China.

The bill was passed amid protests by the opposition and will be submitted to President Lee Teng-Hui for approval.

and published today. "They must accept that times have changed. Then they should show that this change is real... if they want to show their good intentions, they should release these assets."

The United States froze billions of dollars of Iranian funds on deposit in American banks and impounded Iranian military equipment ordered by Shah Mohammad Reza Pahlavi, when 52 Americans were taken hostage at the US embassy in Tehran in 1979.

Iran has in the past raised the assets issue in connection with American hostages in Lebanon. An Iran-US claims tribunal is adjudicating Iran's claims.

Velayati was quoted as saying he saw no obstacles to resuming

relations with Britain which were all but severed in 1987. A diplomat recently returned to Tehran to re-establish the embassy there.

Displeasure
However, Velayati expressed displeasure at a recent meeting with Foreign Office Minister William Waldegrave which he said focussed entirely on the hostages in Lebanon.

Fifteen foreigners—nine Americans, three Britons, an Italian, an Irishman and a Belgian—are missing in Lebanon.

Velayati was quoted as saying Iran has only limited influence over Hezbollah, an umbrella group of pro-Iranian Muslim Shiites. Elements within the Lebanese group are thought to

control the American hostages. "It (Iran's influence) is not unlimited because they are from another country, though we do have brotherly relations, religious relations," he was quoted as saying.

The Observer quoted Velayati as saying he hoped Iran could continue to use its influence to seek the hostages' release. He was quoted as saying "we do hope" the British hostages are alive, but "really I do not know."

Concerned
"I do not have clear confirmation, but we have not had information to the contrary," he was quoted as saying.

Velayati was quoted as saying that Iran is "very concerned" that Iraqi troops have not returned

to their borders, six months after acceptance of a United Nations-mediated ceasefire in the eight-year Gulf war.

"Certainly," the international community should do more to ensure compliance with the agreement, he was quoted as saying.

Peace talks which opened in Geneva five days after the Aug 20 ceasefire, broke down immediately and two more rounds failed to resolve the deadlock.

The talks are stalled over Iran's insistence that Iraqi troops occupying 259 square miles (1,000 sq km) of its territory must withdraw before the talks can proceed, and Iraq's insistence that Iran must first give up its wartime right to search ships in the Gulf for Iraq-bound cargo.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Sea piracy

MANILA, Jan 29, (AP): Pirates gunned down seven fishermen and threw their bodies overboard in an early morning attack off the southern Philippines, a military report said today.

The pirates attacked in two motorboats last Wednesday and fled with the victims' fishing boat, a belated report from the constabulary headquarters said.

Accident

ABIDJAN, Ivory Coast, Jan 29, (AP): A bus packed with schoolchildren toppled into a culvert during a thunderstorm, and 46 passengers were killed, Ivory Coast national television reported today. It said 75 other passengers were seriously injured.

The rainstorm had filled the culvert with water, and many of those killed drowned or suffocated before rescuers could reach them.

Mine threat in Gulf will persist

ABOARD HMS HERALD in the Gulf, Jan 29, (AP): Officers of the British Navy's minehunters say a mine threat will persist in the Gulf, probably for many years, after foreign navies pull out the mine-clearing forces sent here during the Iran-Iraq war.

Despite the long-term problem, the Royal Navy is removing the last of its mine force by the end of February or early March. "We have run out of specific tasks to do," said Commander David Cartledge, who heads the team of three glass fibre-hulled craft now operating in the Gulf.

Britain was one of five European countries to send mine clearing vessels to the area in September, 1987 as threats to commercial shipping caught in the war escalated. The United States also sent six wooden-hulled minesweepers.

Indicated
The British departure, to be followed by Italy, Belgium and the Netherlands, will leave the United States and France as the last Western mine-clearing units in the waterway.

Neither of those governments has indicated when their ships might be pulled out. Unlike the Americans, the two French craft do not operate full time in the Gulf.

The Soviet Union also has three ships capable of mine-hunting in the region, but their role is limited to escorting Soviet and Eastern bloc ships, rather than hunting or sweeping mines in general.

Cartledge, meeting with reporters yesterday aboard HMS Herald, a Royal Navy oceanographic survey vessel that doubles as command and support ship for the British minehunters, likened the Gulf to the North Sea, where old mines are still being found, 45 years after the end of World War II.

Israel and PLO 'may hold direct talks...

(Continued from Page 1)

Israel and renounced terrorism. "Some of the Israelis in the high levels of the government are going in a new way which I believe is in the right direction," he said on Israel Radio.

In the occupied territories, meanwhile, 12 Palestinians were reported shot and wounded as Israeli soldiers opened fire on stone-throwing youths.

Sealed
In the Gaza Strip, the Army sealed the homes of six Palestinians accused of attacking soldiers and Arabs suspected of collaborating with Israel. The Army has regularly destroyed or sealed houses of suspected Palestinian attackers.

In Nabulus, the West Bank's largest city, leaflets appeared for the first time signed by the Arab Socialist Baath Party, the ruling party of President Hafez Assad in Syria, Arab reporters said.

Rajiv may reshuffle cabinet

(Continued from Page 1)

The newspaper said, adding that not all six general secretaries were expected to be sacked.

It also said P. Chidambaram, the State Minister for Home Affairs and a key strategist for Rajiv in Tamil Nadu, submitted his resignation, but that it had not yet been accepted.

The newspapers said the extent of any cabinet shakeup was not clear, although they pointed out that it could affect members currently in charge of more than one ministry and that several could be dropped completely.

Poor countries struggle to balance population and economic growth

One-quarter of world's inhabitants consume 80pc of the resources

UNITED NATIONS, Jan 29, (UPI): Industrialised nations, with low birth rates, are destroying the world's resources as fast as the over-populated poor countries struggling to balance population and economic growth, a UN official said.

"Although their populations are growing much more slowly, developed countries' wasteful use of resources and unbalanced economic systems are equally destructive," Dr Nafis Sadik said.

Sadik said developed nations with one-quarter of the world's five billion inhabitants, consumed 80 per cent of the world's resources and produced 75 per cent of the total municipal and industrial waste.

Balance
Sadik, a gynaecologist from Pakistan, is the executive director of the UN Fund for Population Activities, which provides family planning programmes for developing countries. The UN body just concluded a two-day seminar on population growth and its effect on the planet's diminishing resources.

Sadik said the international community is at a "critical juncture" to map effective program-

mes to balance population growth with existing natural resources.

"If population programmes succeed, we may be able to limit total population to eight billion," she said. "If we fail, there could be 14 billion people on earth in 2100."

She said family planning services did not reach 50 per cent of the women world-wide despite efforts in the past 20 years to extend these services to all.

Roles
These women live in traditional societies where their roles are "strictly circumscribed" or whose existence is limited to rural areas where family planning services are not available, she said.

"Yet, this is the audience we must reach if we are to have further success in our efforts," she said, pointing out that one of UNFPA's goals is to provide family planning services to at least 500 million by 2000.

The United Nations estimates that the world population will reach six billion in 2000, seven billion in 2010 and eight billion in 2022. There are about 90 million new inhabitants in the world every year, China is the most

populous country with 1.1 billion, followed by India, the United States, the Soviet Union and Indonesia.

Ninety per cent of population growth takes place in developing countries while that growth in industrialized nations has largely stopped, the UNFPA said.

Imbalance
Sadik said people in poor countries have been conducting a "ferocious assault" on the environment and urged the international community to seek ways to stop what she called the "social, economic, environment and personal degradation caused by the increasing imbalance between population growth and resources."

She said nutritional levels have dropped and infant mortality has increased in some developing countries.

Some Asian countries have succeeded in meeting the economic needs of their exploding population, Sadik said, citing South Korea, Thailand and Singapore. She said China, Indonesia and Mexico have had "some success" in slowing down the population growth, which will release development resources for productive investment.

India urges Sihanouk to attend talks on Kampuchea

JAKARTA, Jan 29, (AP): India's Minister of State for External Affairs appealed today for Kampuchean resistance leader Prince Norodom Sihanouk not to stay away from Jakarta during next month's informal talks on ways to solve the Kampuchean conflict.

K. Natwar Singh told reporters upon his arrival from New Delhi that India could help find a solution to the war between a three-party resistance coalition and Vietnamese troops that invaded Kampuchea in 1978.

Unlike most countries in the region, India recognizes the Kampuchean government installed after the Vietnamese invasion. It has sought to play a quiet intermediary role.

Sihanouk said he would stay away from Jakarta because Kampuchean Premier Hun Sen has rejected his proposal that an international peacekeeping force supervise the withdrawal of Vietnamese forces.

Indonesian President Suharto

had invited Sihanouk to be in Jakarta during the second round of informal talks on the conflict, scheduled for Feb. 19 to 21 among Vietnam, the warring parties in Kampuchea and members of the Association of South-east Asian Nations.

Singh came to Jakarta for a two-day visit bringing a message from Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi.

Singh declined to reveal the message's contents, but Indonesian Foreign Minister Ali Alatas, who is to confer with Singh tomorrow, said the message concerns Rajiv's talks on Kampuchea with Vietnamese Communist Party Chief Nguyen Van Linh in New Delhi last week.

Following Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev's visit to India and before Rajiv's visit to China, Singh also visited Indonesia last November to discuss the search for a political solution in Kampuchea.

He is to leave Jakarta tomorrow for Bangkok.

Assad ready to meet EEC ministers

DAMASCUS, Jan 29, (AP): President Hafez Al Assad is ready to receive three foreign ministers of the European Economic Community, to discuss Middle East peace prospects, Syria's official news agency SANA reported today.

The agency said Assad's meeting with the three foreign ministers, Francisco Fernandez Ordenez of Spain, Roland Dumas of France and Carolos Papoulias of Greece has been fixed for Feb 12, when the three visit the Syrian capital.

The three ministers, who spearhead EEC efforts for the staging of a Middle East peace conference, had their first meeting with Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat in Madrid on Friday.

Interest
SANA said Syrian Foreign Minister Farouk Al Sharaa was telephoned by his Spanish counterpart yesterday. "The Spanish minister expressed the interest of the EEC countries in Syria's role in the area, and wished that President Assad agree to meet with the Troika during its visit to Syria in February," SANA said.

It added that Al Sharaa returned Ordenez' telephone call last night and "communicated to him President Assad's acceptance to meet with the European Troika."

Spain succeeded Greece in the rotating presidency of the EEC, which changes every six months. It will be succeeded by France in July.

Arafat told a Madrid news conference after his meeting with the three foreign ministers on Friday that they discussed ways the EEC could push for a peace conference.

Ordenez told a separate news conference, also on Friday, that the position of the EEC "is to push for and speed up the convening of a peace conference."

Visit to Cuba

MOSCOW, Jan 29, (UPI): Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev will make an official state visit to Cuba in early April, the Tass news agency said today.

The one sentence announcement said Gorbachev had originally planned to visit Cuba last December after his address to the United Nations and his meetings with the President Reagan and President-elect George Bush in New York.

Gorbachev was forced to cut short that trip because of the devastating earthquake in Armenia on Dec 7.

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Working Girl wins four Golden Globes

BEVERLY HILLS, California, Jan 29. (AP) The corporate Cinderella story, Working Girl, won four film awards and the ABC network mini-series War and Remembrance won three TV awards last night at the 46th annual Golden Globes.

Rain Man, the chronicle of a scheming car salesman who learns to understand his autistic brother, won two film awards, as best dramatic motion picture and for best dramatic actor, Dustin Hoffman.

Actress Sigourney Weaver won two acting awards, as best supporting actress in Working Girl and tying for best dramatic actress in Gorillas in the Mist: The Adventure of Dian Fossey.

Hoffman who played a gifted autistic in Rain Man gave an emotional acceptance speech, and paid special thanks to the film's director, Barry Levinson.

"You are everything an actor could ever hope for," Hoffman said.

There were several ties, including a three-way split for best actress in a dramatic motion picture. Weaver split the prize with Shirley Maclaine of Madame Sousatzka and Jodi Foster of The Accused.

In the best director category, veteran actor Clint Eastwood beat out Working Girl's Mike Nichols and Rain Man's Levinson for his work on Bird, a film about the troubled life of jazz saxophonist great Charlie "Yardbird" Parker.

The best foreign-language film went to Denmark's Pelle the Conqueror.

Naomi Foner won a trophy for best screenplay for Running on Empty, her examination of two 1970s activists coming to terms with their criminal past.

Tom Hanks, who played a teen-ager whose body grows up overnight in Big, captured a Golden Globe for best performance by an actor in a musical or comic motion picture.

Griffith, who plays a savvy secretary yearning for a better job in Working Girl, won as best actress in a musical or comedy film and co-star Weaver won for her supporting role as a shrewish Wall Street executive.

For Griffith, the daughter of actress Tippi Hedren, her award marked a milestone in what she has described as an arduous career.



Weaver: honour

"I've been an actress for 16 years, and it's the first time I've ever won anything," Griffith said.

"This is probably the happiest I've been in my whole life," she said of her award and imminent remarriage to former husband Don Johnson.

Johnson laughed as Griffith became flustered during her acceptance speech, and let slip an expletive during the nationally televised broadcast.

Veteran actor Martin Landau took the trophy for best performance by an actor in a supporting role for his appearance in Tucker: The Man and His Dream. Francis Ford Coppola's study of American car maker Preston Tucker.

PPP will not join a coalition in the province

Baluchistan governor to be removed

By Ashraf Shad

PAKISTAN'S State Minister for Sports, Culture and Tourism Mir Baz Bahadur Kethrani has said that the Governor of Baluchistan province, General (Retd) Mohammad Musa, will be removed shortly from his office.

Kethrani who was visiting Kuwait, told the Arab Times on Saturday night that Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto did not remove Musa earlier because the federal government wanted to give him an opportunity to defend his action at the high court during the hearing of a writ petition against the dissolution of the Baluchistan provincial assembly.

The assembly was dissolved on the binding advice of the then Chief Minister Mir Zafarullah Khan Jamali.

Kethrani said the PPP chief in Baluchistan, Amanullah Gichki,

might be appointed governor of the province.

Kethrani, a member of the National Assembly from Baluchistan, also said the PPP will not join a coalition in the province and will prefer to be in the opposition.

Controversy

Reuter adds: Benazir has survived her first major controversy — over dissolution of the Baluchistan provincial assembly — and sponged up criticism from her main opponent Nawaz Sharif, Chief Minister of Punjab, the most prosperous province.

The IDA accused Benazir of conspiring to keep an ally in power when Musa dissolved the provincial assembly on Dec 15. Jamali, whose coalition included her party, looked set to lose a vote of confidence.

On Tuesday, Baluchistan high

court ordered restoration of the legislature, ruling the dissolution unconstitutional because no confidence vote had been taken.

A diplomat in the Pakistani capital, Islamabad, said this "shows that the rule of law is at work."

Benazir has transformed Pakistan politics in just two months and put a powerful opposition on the defensive.

Tests

Benazir's installation as Prime Minister on Dec 2 gave birth to a free debate Pakistan's 100 million people could only dream about during the preceding 11 years of military rule, though there is concern it could undermine the new democracy.

Political commentators say she has passed some formidable tests. "She has come out of the tests with dignity, leaving her

opponents tilting at imaginary windmills." The Muslim newspaper said.

Benazir, first woman elected leader of a Muslim nation, carried out her November election campaign promises swiftly, releasing thousands of political prisoners jailed under military rule and freeing the media.

Nawaz Sharif's Islamic Democratic Alliance (IDA), apparently fearful of being seen as heir of military rulers, is holding talks with the PPP over her determination to overturn a controversial constitutional amendment.

This amendment validates all actions of military President Mohammad Zia-ul-Haq, killed in a mysterious plane crash last August. Benazir's party falls short of the two-thirds National Assembly majority needed for repeal.

Armies want more deaths per dollar, says Israel

TEL AVIV, Jan 29. (Reuters) Modern armies want more deaths per dollar than conventionally-armed strategic missiles can give them, Israel's chief of staff was quoted as saying.

And he said that the cost-effective option was for them to fit chemical or nuclear warheads to missiles, causing maximum death and destruction for the least expense.

"Missiles are so expensive it is extremely uneconomical to launch them with conventional warheads," Lieutenant-General Dan Shomron said in an interview with the just-published 1989 issue of Israel Air Force magazine.

"States that possess ground-to-ground missiles tend to arm them with... chemical and eventually nuclear weapons. A bomb weighing half a ton or a ton simply does not do enough damage to waste an exorbitantly priced missile on it."

Shomron said equipping a modern missile with a conventional high explosive warhead was similar to putting a pistol in place of a cannon barrel on a sophisticated tank.

Concern

Israel has expressed increasing concern about the growing numbers and capabilities of Arab missiles. It publishes no information about its own missiles.

But foreign publications say Israel's missile force is based mainly on a locally-produced Jericho II missile reportedly capable of reaching target anywhere in the Arab world.

Air force commander Major General Avihu Bin-Nun said in the magazine that "everyone in the Middle East must realise that any use of SSM's (surface-to-surface missiles) against Israeli civilians will provoke a reaction many times more serious."

But he said Saudi Arabia's purchase of Tornado strike aircraft from Britain was a more immediate preoccupation for Israel.

"These are capable of carrying over six tons of bombs, of flying at extremely low altitudes, and of a range to include the entire territory of the state of Israel," he said.

Students demand expulsion of US troops

Seoul police battle radicals

SEOUL, Jan 29. (AP) Radical students demanding the expulsion of US troops from South Korea hurled hundreds of firebombs and rocks at riot police today after they were blocked from marching through Seoul.

Hundreds of riot police in green combat fatigues and black, visored helmets retaliated by hurling teargas grenades and made three charges to drive back students during the clashes. Police armoured vans sprayed the protesters with teargas.

"American troops get out," protesters screamed as waves of students pelted troopers with firebombs. Several troopers were set on fire as the bombs exploded in balls of orange flame.

Police officials, who said 10,000 riot police were deployed across Seoul to block the protest, had no immediate word on arrests or injuries.

Earlier today, several youths

hurled firebombs at a Seoul court building and yelled radical slogans before fleeing, police said. The bombs caused slight damage, but there were no reports of injuries, they said.

Rallies

Fighting erupted when some 6,000 labour union activists and radical students tried to march to the city centre. Labour groups and students had held separate rallies a few metres apart, but then joined ranks for the march.

Workers and students yelled anti-government slogans calling for the fall of President Roh Tae-woo's conservative administration and the arrest of former President Chun Doo-Hwan on corruption charges.

"Arrest Chun Doo-Hwan. Oust Roh Tae-woo," protesters chanted as they marched to the beat of drums and brass gongs.

The marchers, carrying dozens of red, white and blue

flags with anti-government slogans, were halted after a few hundred metres by riot police. Shoving and pushing erupted, but the marchers could not get through.

Students armed with firebombs and rocks then attacked police. Fighting was confined to a main street and several side streets and lasted more than one hour.

The labour activists did not take part in the fighting, and many of them left in buses to stage a protest outside the headquarters of the giant Samsung Corp., a producer of ships, televisions and other goods. Several thousand riot police ringed the building as workers shouted slogans and hurled leaflets before leaving peacefully.

Labour leaders denounced the government and major corporations, claiming they suppressed trade unions and exploited workers to produce cheap exports.

Mahathir's candidate wins by-election

KUALA LUMPUR, Jan 29. (UPI) The government's candidate won today a critical parliamentary by-election in a strong endorsement of Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamed's leadership and his crusading efforts to unify Malays behind his struggling political party.

After seven hours of counting ballots, 32-year-old Ong Tee Kiat, a political novice, garnered 23,719 votes against his nearest rival, veteran politician Harun Idris, who only collected 19,469 votes.

The remaining five contenders lost their deposits for receiving less than one-eighth of the total number of votes cast in Saturday's polls.

"It was a victory for everyone who loves democracy and national stability," said Ong after the results were announced following two weeks of bitter campaigning for the seat vacated last December.

Ong said the results reflected confidence in the ailing Mahathir, hospitalised since last Tuesday following quintuple bypass surgery. Analysts said a sympathy vote undoubtedly helped swing the outcome to Mahathir's side.

Takeshita to forge closer ties with Bush

TOKYO, Jan 29. (AP) Japanese Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita leaves for the United States on Tuesday for talks with President Bush that are expected to take advantage of the current "smooth sailing" between the two countries to lay the groundwork for closer personal ties.

The relationship already is off to a flying start. Bush was among the first of the foreign dignitaries to accept Takeshita's invitation to attend the Feb 24 state funeral for Emperor Hirohito, a duty usually delegated to the vice-president.

Takeshita will become the first foreign leader to greet the new President when he and Bush hold a three-hour discussion at the White House on Thursday.

Takeshita has a long personal association with Bush going back six years when Takeshita was finance minister and Bush was vice-president, said Foreign Ministry spokesman Yoshitomi Matsuda.

"In light of the very close US-Japan relations, it is only too natural for us to have early meetings and an exchange of views on global and bilateral matters," Matsuda said.

"Fundamentally, I don't see

any basic difference between our posture with the previous administration and the new one. During eight years of the Reagan administration, we made remarkable progress in bilateral economic relations.

"As a result of tremendous efforts by the governments and the private sector, there is smooth sailing, particularly in trade relations. We need to continue these concerted efforts," he said.

Following his talks with Bush, the Japanese leader is scheduled to meet members of Congress, where his reception is expected to be more chilly.

Many of the lawmakers, citing a recent widening of the US trade deficit with Japan are clamouring for Tokyo to open more of its markets to US imports.

A growing protectionist tide in Congress could pressure the Bush administration to impose trade sanctions on Tokyo in the coming year if it fails to loosen restrictions on rice and other farm goods.

The Congress also wants Japan to spend more for the defence of the region, both beefing up its own defence forces and paying a great share for the maintenance of US bases in Asia.

Pro-Chinese Panchen Lama dies at 50

BEIJING, Jan 29. (AP) Panchen Lama, the Tibetan religious leader who stayed behind and sided with the Chinese when others were fleeing into exile, died last night on the windswept plateaus of his homeland. He was 50.

The official Xinhua news agency said today that Tibetan Buddhism's second-highest religious leader died of a sudden heart attack in the Tibetan town of Xigaze.

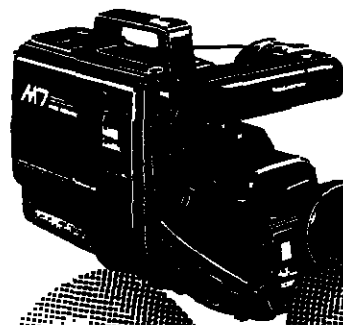
The 10th Panchen Lama, who lived in Beijing, had travelled to Xigaze to attend the opening ceremony of a newly rebuilt great stupa which contains the remains of the fifth to ninth Panchen Lamas.

The stupa, or shrine, had been destroyed and the remains of the past religious leaders defiled during the 1966-76 Cultural Revolution, when Chinese leftists destroyed temples and persecuted many of the deeply religious Tibetan people.

Unlike the Dalai Lama, who demands autonomy for Tibet and is the spiritual leader of Tibetan monks the Panchen Lama is China's top Tibetan spokesman for Sino-Tibetan unity.

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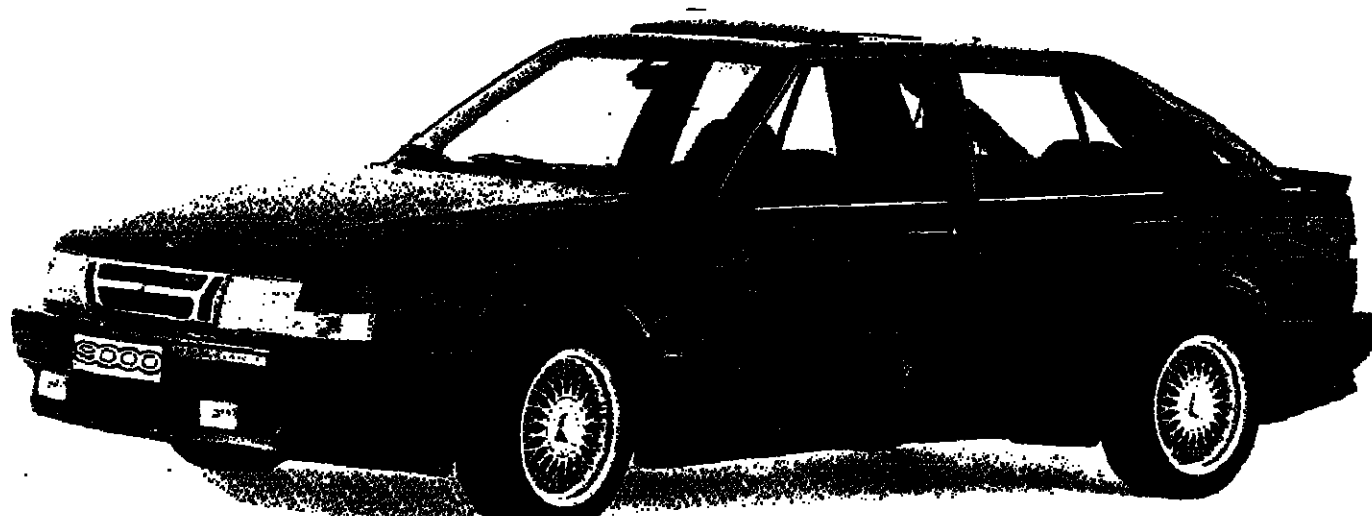
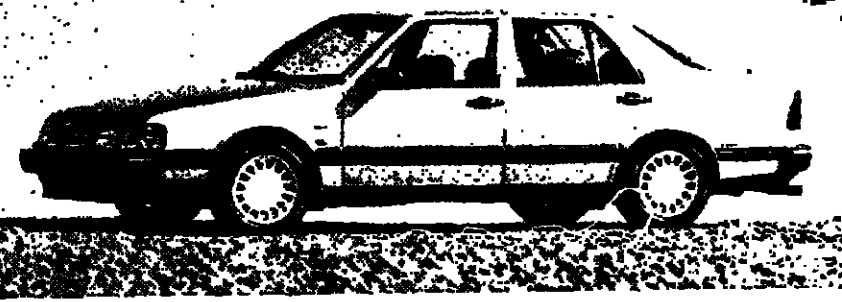
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Saudis lift ban on Filipinos

RIYADH, Jan 29. (Reuters): Saudi Arabia has lifted a five-month freeze on work permits for Filipinos, labour sources said today.

They said the lifting of the freeze followed a visit by Philippines Labour Minister Franklin Drilon to Riyadh in December for talks on ending the dispute.

Manila banned overseas employment of Filipina maids from March last year to prevent their abuse by foreign employers. Riyadh responded last August by refusing to issue work visas for any class of Filipino workers. Manila lifted its ban in October.

About 300,000 Filipinos work in Saudi Arabia in technical, clerical and other fields. Foreign workers represent more than 30 per cent of the kingdom's 10 million population.

Kuwait-Denmark agreement endorsed

KUWAIT, Jan 29. (KUNA): An Amiri decree was published here today endorsing an agreement for economic, industrial, scientific and technical co-operation between Kuwait and the Kingdom of Denmark.

The decree published in "Kuwait Al Youm" said the two sides will work towards encouraging and developing economic, industrial, scientific and technical co-operation as the first article stipulates.

The second article in the decree calls for encouraging and facilitating efforts for utilising and employing potentials of co-operation in the field of energy with companies and institutes for the mutual interest of both countries. In addition it also calls for co-operation in the field of studies and the exchange of visits and programmes and holding of joint conferences.

The fourth article stipulates for setting up a joint co-operation for economic, industrial, scientific and technical co-operation which will be specialised in supervising implementation of the agreement and exploring the fields of co-operation.

Another decree was also published on government employees who volunteer for civil defence activities.

Volunteers are to receive their full salaries during the time of their work with the Civil Defence Authority.

Burnt body found in garage

A BURNED body was found in a garage in the scrap area, according to the Public Relations Department at the Ministry of the Interior.

The body was found in a scrap bus after a fire at the garage had been extinguished. The garage was owned by Ashwi K., a Kuwaiti citizen.

Sources added that the body which was completely unrecognisable has been referred to authorities for a post-mortem examination.

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No increase in postal charges, says official

THERE is no truth to the rumours that the Ministry of Communications intends to increase postal charges in the near future as these rates are governed by international conventions, according to Abdul Aziz Al Ayoub, the ministry's undersecretary.

There has been a considerable drop in the revenue from the sale of stamps due to the large exodus of expatriates. Revenues have dropped overall due to a drop in the volume of outgoing money orders including the fact that post box rentals were not calculated as part of the ministry's total annual revenues, an official at the ministry said.

Meanwhile, the constant expansion of the ministry's subscriber telephone services in the new areas required consistent co-

ordination with the relevant service ministries, according to Abdullah Al Sharhan, the minister of communications.

Speaking to a local newspaper, he said that the ministry would submit recommendations to these agencies based on drawings of these areas. Relevant drawings would then be prepared.

He said that the maintenance technicians were responsible for cross-line interference at Ahmadi Central and the ministry is planning to sort out this problem. The ministry's current organisational structure is also being radically re-arranged with a view to sorting out existing negatives. New technically-qualified and trained staff will be added to the team of technicians, he added.

New Civil Service housing arrangements

KUWAIT, Jan 29. (KUNA): The Civil Service Council has recently decided to cancel provision of housing for government employees in favour of granting employee housing allowance. Undersecretary of the Civil Service Commission Abdul Aziz Al Zabin said today.

The official explained that the new arrangement would apply to new government recruits who are eligible for accommodation.

Zabin said the commission resolved to offer employees, now

enjoying government housing, the chance of choosing between remaining in those houses or receiving a housing allowance.

However, accommodation for bachelors, such as teachers and nurses will remain unchanged, the official indicated.

Zabin denied reports that the commission has instructed concerned government departments to stop renewal of lease contracts for buildings reserved to accommodate their foreign staff.

Campers asked to shift away from power centre

CAMPERS who pitch their tents in close proximity to the Power Control Centre in the Mishref and Surra desert have been directed to shift their camps to other sites within ten days from last Saturday, according to a local daily.

Explaining these directives issued by the Governor of Farwaniya Sheikh Ahmad Al Homoud Al Sabah and Hawalli Governor Abdul Latif Al Berjes, the daily said that the decision was taken due to the increasing number of traffic accidents and

fires reported near the centre and to ensure the safety of the five power relay stations in the same area.

Additionally, several projects are also being executed in the area including the presence of heavy equipment which poses a danger to campers.

In response to the directives, about 65 per cent of campers in the area have already shifted to other areas determined by the Municipality and the Ministry of Interior, the daily said.

Cabinet assesses league committee consultations

KUWAIT, Jan 29. (KUNA): Kuwait today appreciated efforts exerted by the Arab League six-man committee to mediate a settlement for the Lebanese crisis, hoping they would lead to the desired results of restoring peace and stability in the war-torn country.

This came in the course of a regular session held today by the Council of Ministers, which assessed contacts and consultations being held by the League's six-member Ministerial Committee now in Tunis under the chairmanship of Kuwait's Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmed.

Development

The committee was assigned by an extraordinary League council session in Tunis early January to establish contacts with concerned Lebanese rivals factions with the aim of extricating the country from its current vicious cycle of violence and endless fighting.

Briefing newsmen following the cabinet session, under HH the Crown Prince and Prime Minister Sheikh Saad Abdullah, the Minister of State for Cabinet

Affairs Rashed Al Rashed said the council reviewed a blueprint of Kuwait's long-term development strategy.

"The strategy, details challenges and obstacles facing development as well as the main problems involved in implementing the strategy, where the Kuwaiti individual is the pivotal centre."

Because of the paramount importance of this vital question to the country's planning for the future, Rashed said the cabinet has decided to schedule a special extraordinary session to discuss it.

At the outset of the meeting, the official indicated that the cabinet has been briefed on contents of a message lately received by HH the Amir from the President of Bangladesh dealing with bilateral ties and means to strengthen Islamic bonds of co-operation.

Co-operation

The Council of Ministers was also apprised of results of the visit and talks held last week by the President of Somalia which dealt with the existing close bilateral co-operation, current Arab developments and some African questions, Rashed

explained.

Rashed also reported to the session on the outcome of last week's meeting in Senegal held by culture ministers in member countries of the Organisation of Islamic Conference which reviewed a cultural strategy for the Muslim nation and ways to remove hindrances before dissemination of culture among these states.

Recommendations

The official said that the cabinet also discussed and approved recommendations by the Municipal Affairs Committee, the Economic and Financial Committee, the Higher Petroleum Council and the standing committee to follow up and enforce basic rules for Kuwait's contribution to specialised international, regional and Islamic agencies and organisations.

The Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs also reported to the session on the measures taken by the Public Authority for Agricultural Affairs and Fisheries to fight swarms of locusts that invaded the Wafra agricultural area recently as well as preparations and co-operation with other concerned departments to eradicate the plague, Rashed concluded.

UAE military on standby alert to combat locust invasion

ABU DHABI, Jan 29. (AP): UAE armed forces were ordered on a standby alert today to assist in combating a locust invasion now in its seventh day.

Locust swarms, infiltrating from the Rub Al Khali, or empty quarter, desert of Saudi Arabia crossed into the UAE at a point near the border with Qatar, affecting several areas 300 to 400 kilometres (187 to 250 miles) west of the capital, Abu Dhabi. The invasion has been described as the worst in 28 years.

Crown Prince Khalifa Bin Zayed, who is also deputy supreme commander of the armed forces, ordered the Army to stand by in readiness for joining the anti-locust operation waged by the agriculture department and the municipality over

the previous six days.

Officials hoped that following intensive spraying, both from the air and by crew on the ground, there would be no need for the Army to intervene. They said the spraying had reduced by one third the initial area of 120 kilometres (75 miles) covered by the swarms.

Supervision

Agriculture Ministry officials, who cannot be named under standing regulations, were optimistic that the locusts would be eliminated within two days. But they warned the danger would persist because of the eggs laid by the swarms, which will produce fresh swarms later.

"Following the combat operation which is conducted by

experts under the supervision of the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organisation, and because of the directions of the wind, the locust swarm has been fragmented into small groups in various parts of the Abu Dhabi western region," said one official.

The locusts spread eastward from Africa in October, to reach the Red Sea coast of Saudi Arabia and the peninsula. The Saudis launched a massive air and land spraying operation which prevented many of the swarms from moving eastwards across the desert to reach the Arabian Gulf region.

Other swarms survived however and infiltration has been reported as far north along the Gulf as Kuwait.

Civil Defence volunteers begin training

THE first group of 250 Civil Defence volunteers began training at five training centres in the five governorates on Saturday morning.

Seventy female volunteers also began training yesterday at two training centres.

Lt. Col Mutlaq Minwar, Director of Training at the Public Administration of Civil Defence, said that the volunteers will begin with theoretical training on Civil Defence and practicals in the second stage.

Intentional disappearance

A JORDANIAN national identified as Mohammed M. informed Al Nagra Police Station that his 13-year-old daughter had been kidnapped last Friday while standing in front of his residence, the Public Relations Department of the Ministry of Interior reported.

Detectives of Hawalli who found the daughter on Saturday reported that the teenager stated that she disappeared intentionally to frighten her family.



Smugglers and their contraband seized by the authorities.

Attempts to smuggle drugs, alcohol and guns foiled

DETECTIVES of Hawalli Governorate foiled a unique attempt, considered the first of its kind in Kuwait to smuggle drugs into the country, according to the Public Relations Department at the Ministry of the Interior.

Detectives recovered 20 kilograms of hashish hidden

inside potatoes which had been replanted to appear natural. The contraband was found in an incoming truck which was carrying about 200 cartons of potatoes.

The driver of the truck identified as Jamil M., Syrian and the confiscated material has been referred to the authorities for further investigation.

In another smuggling incident, the same source said that detectives of the Capital apprehended three men on charges of possessing liquor and unlicensed arms.

The three were identified as Matar M., non-Kuwaiti, Ali M., Kuwaiti and Fuad J., Kuwaiti. The defendants were arrested

in two cars carrying two Kuwaiti forged plates and 1,320 bottles of liquor in addition to two machine-guns, one pistol and 155 bullets and three magazines of bullets.

The suspects along with the confiscated materials have been referred to the authorities for further investigation.

Enhance inter-Arab solidarity, says Jordanian information minister

KUWAIT, Jan 29. (KUNA): Jordanian Information Minister Hani Khasawana today affirmed that the Arab nation has no option but to enhance inter-Arab solidarity and warned against instigating a war of words against the new US administration over its Mideast policy.

In an interview with a Kuwaiti daily, Khasawana indicated that the just nature of the Palestinian cause has "strengthened its defenders, generation after another" and said that Arab military power has also been continuously growing.

He expressed his country's satisfaction over the progress

achieved in Jordanian-PLO relations and stressed that Amman sided with the Palestinians to realise the dream of establishing an independent Palestinian state on their national soil after termination of the Israeli occupation.

Weapons

The Jordanian minister said that US President George Bush's administration should be given a chance "to explore its intentions with regard to the situation in the Middle East." He cautioned against launching a "cold war" on Washington in this connection in response to press statements by the new administration's officials.

Khasawana spoke in reference to a recently reported statement by the new US State Secretary James Baker in which he was quoted as telling Congress that the new American administration will stand against the establishment of an independent Palestinian state, will support "a unified Jerusalem" and will not force Israel to withdraw to the 1967 borders.

If Israel produces nuclear weapons Khasawana said, then it will be quite obvious that the Arab states would have to process or purchase similar weapons.

Psychiatrists to be allowed to open private clinics

KUWAITI psychiatrists working at Kuwait's Psychiatry Hospital will be allowed to open their own private clinics after official working hours, a local daily quoted well informed sources as saying.

A final decision to this effect is to be taken by the concerned

ministry, the source added.

Meanwhile, the source said that the Ministry of Public Health is studying an application for the establishment of private medical institutions. The proposed institutions will be financed and managed by private companies or be financed and managed by a group of doctors.

Eighty fishing boats seized

EIGHTY fishing boats were seized by the Coast Guards Department, because owners transgressed Kuwait's territorial waters, last Friday.

The boats belonged to Kuwaiti citizens and according to a local newspaper top-level government officials are currently considering what course of action should be taken.

BAHRAIN DUST

Bahrain's HCTC provides graduates to hotel industry

THE number of Bahrainis in the hotel industry has increased considerably over the last few years, thanks to an organisation which is the only one of its kind in the Gulf.

The Hotel and Catering Training Centre (HCTC) in Muharraq was established in 1975 by the Government of Bahrain with technical assistance from United Nations Development Programme and International Labour Organisation. Since commencement of training courses in January 1976 about 300 students have graduated in all major aspects of the hotel and catering sector from the centre.

In an interview with the Arab Times, Abdul Raheem Abdul A. Khoja, Director of HCTC, said the centre has been successful in providing employment to Bahrainis in the hotel sector, in keeping with the government's policy of "Bahrainisation." Generally 25 per cent of the total workforce in the first class hotels in the island are Bahrainis, while 10 per cent of personnel in five star hotels are locals, he said.

Traditionally the hotel industry has been unpopular among Bahrainis seeking employment. However, the trend is gradually changing as more nationals are taking up jobs in this field.

Choices

"Many choices are available in the hotel industry for young graduates. We provide incentive to the recruits to make the job as attractive as possible. The hotel industry is a growing field providing a lot of opportunities to our young people," said Khoja.

He further added that with the development of tourism in Bahrain more opportunities are being created to hire local staff in the hotel industry. The centre works in close collaboration and co-operation with the Supreme Council for Tourism and the General Managers Committee of the leading hotels in the country. The Council supports and encourages students, undergoing training in hotels, by contributing an allowance. A special budget has been created for the allowance by the Council. 75 per cent of the allowance is provided by the Council for the students while 25 per cent is borne by the hotel concerned.

Students are also encouraged to take up employment during the summer in leading hotels in order to provide them with experience. A monthly salary of BD40 is paid to students for summer work. Students work in out-door services on special occasions in an arrangement made between the centre and hotels.

Diploma

Courses conducted by HCTC generally last for two years. On graduation a student receives a diploma which is recognised throughout the Arab world and by some technical colleges in Britain.

The director stressed that about 90 per cent of the students graduate from the centre. He added that the drop-out rate is very low.

Apart from Bahrainis, the centre comprises other students from the region. At present 200 students are studying at the centre, out of which 182 constitute Bahrainis and 18 are foreigners.

According to Khoja the centre's instructors are hired by organisations overseas for training of catering personnel.

"Our standards are recognised and appreciated in the region. Recently, Kuwait Airways asked for our assistance for refresher courses."

Facilities at HCTC include production kitchens, a housekeeping unit, a restaurant, a language laboratory and audio-visual aids, business machines, classrooms, teaching staff, facilities for outdoor training and pastry kitchens. Additionally, there is a residential facility for students from GCC states.

Rising cost of building materials linked to rise in interest rates

THE rise in the cost of building material is a natural outcome of the rise in interest rates on loans, according to a local economic consultant.

He added that the allocation of a large number of building plots to the National Housing Authority (NHA) in a relatively short period of time has also contributed to the rise in prices.

Meanwhile, Farid Mishari Al Ojail, the assistant director general for documentation, distribution and follow-up at the NHA said the NHA had distributed a total of 1,803 housing plots in 1987, 1,253 during 1988 and was planning to distribute 1,339 additional plots this year.

Advantage He added that some traders had taken advantage of the country's free trading system and increased the prices of building materials in a bid to recoup the losses incurred by them during the economic recession which followed the stock market crisis.

Explaining, Abdullah Al Mulla, the director of the Consumer Protection Department at the Ministry of Commerce and Industry said that the ministry had under the existing free-trade system no right to define the profit margin for commodities and goods, except for certain items of a special nature. These related to foodstuffs, such as meat, bread, certain building materials, like aggregates, fresh water and gravel.

To define the profit margin, the ministry would have to define the cost of labour, rent of warehouses, cost of labourers, residential accommodation, the cost of returned goods, follow-up the forwarding problems and monitor the fluctuations of exchange rates which were impossible variables to keep track of, the official said.

Building specifications and materials being standardised

THE Acting Director-General of Kuwait Municipality Sheikh Sabah Jaber Al Ali has issued a decision standardising specifications and material used in the external remodelling of buildings.

The decision is in response to an earlier decision by the Minister of State for Municipal Affairs Mohammad Abdul Mohsen Al Rifai regulating building activities in line with recommendations adopted by the Municipal Affairs Committee.

The decision states that paints and material used for external remodelling of buildings must be similar to the original.

The decision goes on to state that if similar paints and material should be unavailable, the owner of the building must seek better quality material and paints, and submit a list of the materials used to the relevant authorities at the Municipality.

According to the decision, the paints should be compatible with the surrounding buildings. White and related light paints should be accorded top preference.

The decision bans the use of reflective metal boards for partial or complete cladding of building exteriors. Glazing of the buildings must be kept to a minimum.

Education Ministry receives 2,000 work applications

THE Ministry of Education has received about two thousand local and overseas applications for employment in the teaching cadre, according to Suad Al Refai the Undersecretary for General Education.

A special committee will be formed to undertake the selection of candidates according to specialisations. The selection process is expected to be completed by the month of March, the official said.

In a special announcement to a

local daily, the official said that the ministry intends to open 30 new schools for different educational stages at new residential areas and areas with large populations for the next academic year. She also indicated the possibility of opening a school with the new semester system.

The ministry has nominated 458 teachers for leading posts at schools and will train the nominees to enhance their expertise, the official concluded.

WHAT'S ON

ARTS

Ghadir Gallery
UNTIL Feb 9: The Orient in their Eyes is the title of an exhibition by a group of Arab and European artists. The exhibition is open daily from 9 am to 12.30 pm and 4 to 8.30 pm.

EDUCATION

Darul Quran
REGISTRATION for the first semester at the Darul Quran, Urdu Section, Farwaniya, will be held from Jan 31. Arabic language and Islamic studies will be taught. For details contact the Principal, Darul Quran, behind Holiday Inn Hotel, Farwaniya. Tel: 4730335.

THEATRE

Konkani Drama
FEB 3: IAC, 4pm: N.G.O.A. will present a Konkani drama Ekuch Kazar, directed by M. Boyer. Also taking part are Betty Naz, Sabina, Rosario Dias and others. For reservation contact Tel: 2401319 ext. 22.

Kuwait Players Auditions
FEB 2: 4.30 to 6 pm, Universal American School, Salwa, and Feb 5, 7 pm at Messilah Beach Hotel: Kuwait Players auditions will hold two of their coming productions. (1): The Great Celestial Cow, a comedy with music, about an Indian family adapting to their new life in England; directed by Mike Condon (2) When Did You Last See Your Trouser? a British farce, directed by Mike Johnston. Indians particularly welcome for the first production. For details ring Malcolm Walker — 5624111 ext. 716.

MUSIC
FEB 3: The music groups Funkada and Saaz aur Awaz will present a musical evening entitled "Dhanak" at the SAS Tent, featuring a number of local singers and musicians. For details contact Anwar — Tel: 398-5456; Zulfikar — Tel: 4814733.

EXHIBITIONS
Children's Books of the Year 88 exhibition, Feb 4-16: An exhibition of British books for children, written by award winning writers and illustrators, will be held at the British Council, Mansouriya.

The programme is as follows: Feb. 4: Opening by Dr Rasha Al Sabah, Vice Rector for Community Affairs, Kuwait University; Dr Elizabeth Al Kaoud will give a lecture on "From Tots to Teens, A Survey of British Literature for Children".

FILMS: Feb 8 (6 pm): Winnie the Pooh and the Blustery Day (cartoon); Feb 15 (6 pm): The Amazing Adventures of Sherlock Holmes (cartoon).

STORYTELLING SESSION: A professional storyteller will conduct the sessions. Feb 9-16 (9.30 - 10.30 am) a session for children aged seven to 10; (11 - 12 noon) stories for children aged three to six. All are welcome. Free admission. But it is advisable to reserve seats. Tel: 2515512; 2533204; 2533227.

SOCIAL
KAPILKU has launched a membership drive. Filipinos can obtain application forms from the Philippine embassy and Holiday Inn's bowling alley and Filipino restaurants in Kuwait.

Kuwait Caledonians
FEB 2: The Caledonians will hold the Burns Night (Thursday) at the Messilah Beach Hotel. The guest from Scotland will be Jack Glenn. Tel: 5335082; 5332235; 3727691 ext. 253.

Kuwait Rondels
FEB 16: The Kuwait Rondels Grand Ball '89 will be held at the Messilah Beach Hotel. Tickets are now available. Tel: 5337597.

SPORTS
PBAK non-pro bowling league
FEB 3 (Friday): This week's schedule: 8.30 am — Cavite City vs Baguio City; Makati vs Las Pinas; 11.30 am — Manila vs San Juan, Mandaluyong vs Paranaque; 2.30 pm — Las Pinas vs Quezon City; Caloocan City vs Valenzuela.

Five-a-Side Football
FEB 17: The Weekend Club will hold their first annual five-a-side football tournament at Al Sour grounds. The draw will be held on the same day. For entry forms contact M. Dias (off.) 2460983.

INDIAN VIDEO ROUNDUP

Bravo Nair

By Fathima Ahmed

MIRA NAIR'S first feature film Salaam Bombay made with, and about the children of Bombay, won the D'Or at Cannes last year. It has also won 10 other international awards. No Indian film has won such wide acclaim for over a decade with rave reviews by Western critics. Perhaps what makes the West sit back and think is coming face to face with poverty, something they associate with the Third World. What the West fails to see, and Nair projects in her film is the dignity of the people of the Third World. They live in a world of their own, courageously believing in themselves.

Nair's sympathetic treatment of the street kids of Bombay shows the raw energy of the homeless and nameless children, triumphing over tremendous odds.

Salaam Bombay is a sincere effort. It's not like seeing a film; it's like being part of the milieu — of the humdrum of life in the red light district, where the film has been shot. Filmed in a real brothel, with amateurs and professional actors and prostitutes and the children — who scrounge for a living, thriving on underground activities — it captures the mood of the place and sets the pace of the well-

thought theme. The performers are lively; the viewers involved. Nair's humane depiction of the trapped and condemned brings a lump to the throat each time you see their innocence damaged by the precarious scheme of things. This is where she excels as a filmmaker by documenting their misery without glossing over facts; or glorifying their misery. They are what they are and bear their burden with dignity.

Nair's film is not depressing. Yet, you are moved. It touches your heart, reviving faith in humanity.

Ten-year-old Krishna (Shafiq Syed) is the central character. Abandoned by a travelling circus company Krishna goes to a "big city, any big city" to earn Rs.500 to take back to his mother in the village. In Bombay, he is surrounded by others, who like him, share a common destiny, similar dreams and are hardened by the roughness around them, sheltered by their innate innocence.

Krishna is a non-entity in the scheme of things. He is "chhapau", the boy who delivers tea and bread. "No one calls me Krishna any longer," he complains in a letter to his mother. No one accepts his



Krishna (Shafiq Syed) and Sweet Sixteen Chanda Sharma in Salaam Bombay

presence. Yet, Krishna is alive, full of feeling, and humanity where none exists, helping women against Baba (Nana Patekar), the pimp and drug pusher, and the boss of the street.

Other characters are Chillum, a street-wise guy, who tells Krishna to "forget about going home"; Rekha (Aneceta Kanwar), the gritty prostitute who lives with Baba and Sweet Sixteen (Chanda Sharma), the beautiful girl sold to a brothel and described by Baba as "the rose in the gutter." Ms. Hawa Hawa (Sridevi) is their entertainment, the pavement their beds and togetherness their family. They may use foul language (some expletives have been allowed, others censored in Kuwait) but their hearts are made of gold. They are poor, but they are the richest in spirit, deriving sympathy for others from their own experience.

Nair's film is optimistic, ban-

king on such intangibles as hope and as such it succeeds in portraying the unending cycle of poverty and the terrible destiny of the children.

Shafiq Syed's Krishna lifts your spirits nudging you to share his fears and misery. Aneceta Kanwar's brave Rekha is dignified and unperturbed by the way things are around her. Kanwar is as beautiful as Nana Patekar's Baba is hateful. The images of the street kids of Bombay leave indelible prints on your mind. You may remember them, or forget them, and laud their courage and strengths. But can you do something about it? Mira Nair seems to have hit the roads of Bombay to raise funds for the kids of Bombay but such efforts will be a drop in the ocean until something changes inside the system that breeds poverty. The above film is by courtesy of Athari Video, Main St., Farwaniya; Tel: 4742900, and Falcon Video, Abbasiya.

Layla Majnun play staged in the US

WASHINGTON, Jan 29, (KUNA): In a rare acknowledgement of the rich Arab heritage, the Kennedy Centre of Washington, hosted two major performances of the Arab world musical "Layla Majnun."

Last week, Margaret Wolfson and Paula Chang Bing of the World Story and Music Ensemble, with guest musicians Simon Shaheen and Michel Mirhige, performed their highly acclaimed play, a fascinating blend of dramatic storytelling, beautiful music and shimmering scenery of the Arabian desert.

TELEVISION PROGRAMMES

KTV 1

MORNING

9.00 Holy Quran
9.10 Good Morning
9.15 Cartoon serial
9.45 World News via Satellite
10.00 Abna'a Al Diyah: Arabic serial; Part 3. Starring: Jamil Awadh, Juliet Safdi, Iman Kamel
10.30 News Summary: Good Morning
11.00 Saghirat Al Hayat: local Arabic serial; starring Hayat Al Fahad, Zainab Al Dah, Hind Kamel, Dawood, Hussein, Mohammad Sayeed Essa
12.00 That's Incredible
1.00 News Summary
1.05 Holy Quran / Close-down

EVENING

4.00 Holy Quran
4.15 World News via Satellite
4.45 Cartoon serial

5.15 Mama Anisa and Children
5.45 Varieties
6.00 Liqa Fi Al Zakira: historical serial; starring Fakhry Al Akidi, Fawzi Mahdi, Nizar Al Samara
7.00 News Summary
7.15 Songs and Music
7.30 Our Children and Their Future
8.30 Good Evening
9.00 News in Arabic
9.50 Al Jawaarih: Arabic serial; starring Safa Abul Saud, Salah Saadani, Yusuf Shaban, Mohsina Tawfiq
11.30 Fann wa Fikr: Variety Show, presented by Amal Abdullah
12.30 News Summary
12.35 World News via Satellite / Holy Quran / Close-down

6.30 Chocky's Children: based on characters created by John Wyndham. Albertine has been kidnapped; and everyone looks for Chocky, who is also missing
7.00 Roving Report: weekly roundup of world news and views
7.30 Perspective: Nature News in English
8.40 A Different World: "War of the ..."
9.30 Rediscovery of the World: "The Legacy of Cortez"
10.00 Alfred Hitchcock Presents: "Kandinsky Vault"
10.30 French Feature Film
11.30 News Summary: Magazine D'Actualite. Holy Quran Close-down

KTV 2

6.00 Holy Quran
6.10 Bionic Six: cartoon serial

Please note that programmes and timings are liable to change without notice.

RADIO PROGRAMMES

BBC World Services

0000 Newstalk
30 In Praise of God
0100 News Summary followed by A Question of Science
45 Havana Guitar Festival
0200 World News
09 British Press Review
15 Andy Kershaw's World of Music
30 Science in Action
0300 World News
09 News about Britain
15 Good Books
30 Anything Goes
0400 Newstalk
30 Five William Stories (ex 23rd and 30th Dangerous in Love)
45 Nature Now
0500 World News
09 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary
30 Waveguide
40 Words of Faith
45 Recording of the Week
0600 Newstalk
30 2nd With Good Reason: 9th The Art of the Weatherman; 16th Boy Soldiers; 23rd and

30th The International Arms Trade
0700 World News
09 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary
30 Monarchs (ex 23rd Gypsies, 30th W B Years: The Last Romantic)
0800 World News
09 Words of Faith
15 Five William Stories (ex 23rd and 30th Dangerous in Love)
30 Anything Goes
0900 World News
09 British Press Review
15 Good Books
30 Financial News followed by Sports Roundup
45 Andy Kershaw's World of Music
1000 News Summary followed by 9th The Art of the Weatherman; 16th Boy Soldiers; 23rd and 30th The International Arms Trade
30 The Vintage Chart Show
1100 World News
09 News about Britain
15 Health Matters
30 The Ken Bruce Show
1200 Newstalk
15 Novel Ideas
45 Sports Roundup

1300 World News
09 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary
30 Monarchs (ex 23rd Gypsies, 30th W B Years: The Last Romantic)
1400 Outlook, opening with 5-Minute News
45 My Grandfather (ex 30th Reading)
1500 Newstalk
15 A Question of Science (ex 2nd Feature)
1600 World News
09 News about Britain
15 9th and 16th Five William Stories; 23rd and 30th Dangerous in Love
30 Health Matters
45 The World Today

Urdu

1900 Opening Holy Quran
1910 Behtereen Qaul
1920 Songs
1935 Press report
1940 Islam aur Duae-e-Hazir
2000 News in Urdu
2020 Songs
2040 Hamare Mehman
2100 Close-down



● The Bangladeshi Ambassador to Kuwait, K.M. Shehabuddin, on Saturday hosted a reception for Thai envoy Vichien Chatsawan, who will head the Kuwaiti authority. A large number of diplomats attended. Above: (L-R) Shehabuddin, Chatsawan, Sri Lankan envoy C.H. Mohammad, A. Kapadia and the counsellor of the Asia Desk at Kuwait Foreign Ministry, Hamad Al Ahmed.



● 'The Orient in their Eyes,' an exhibition of paintings by a group of Arab and European artists was opened on Saturday at the Ghadir Gallery. Above: guests discussing some of the works on display as gallery owner Thuraya Bakhsamy (left) looks on.

CINEMA TODAY

Al Andalus
Youn Mir Youn Helu (Arabic)
Starring: Faten Hamama, Mohammad Muneer
Al Samiya
Closed
Al Hanra
Delta Force Commando
Starring: Fred Williamson
Drive-in
Al Jawazah Dimishq Lazim
Tatum (Arabic)
Starring: Hussein Fahmi, Bosi

Al Firdous
Aatish (Hindi)
Starring: Jeetendra, Neetu Singh
Fahad Open-air
Pyar Mohabbat (Hindi)

Al Fahadhel
Aliens
Al Jahra
The Wild Team
Granada
Latino
Sudabikhat
Mag Wheels
Al Jleeb
Florida Straits
Ahmadi Drive-in
Revolution

PRAYERS
Fajr 5.17 am
Zuhr 12.01
Asr 3.04 pm
Maghreb 5.25
Isha 6.44

NIGHT CHEMIST

Kuwait
Al Jahra Pharmacy
Awqaf Bldg, Fahd Al Salem St.
Ibn Rushd Pharmacy
Souk Kuwait Bldg, Souk Duaij
Hawalli and Nagra
Al Qattan Pharmacy
Yarmouk Complex, Othman St.
Salamiya and Rumaithiya
Al Qortoba Pharmacy
Salim Al Mubarak St.
Fahadhel and Ahmadi
Al Abraj Pharmacy
Sulaiman Dabbous Centre, Sinan St.
Farwaniya
Al Madina Pharmacy
North St.
Jahra
Al Zahra Pharmacy
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ARAB TIMES

Thought for today

SHALLOW men believe in luck — Ralph Waldo Emerson, US writer (1803-1882).

OPINION

Stock market being destroyed

SHARE prices have been dropping continually and sharply.

This is evident by comparing the present prices with those a year ago. Prices fluctuate almost every month. The retreat is certainly unlimited.

It is easy for a minister or an undersecretary to issue denials and give reasons for such denials. But, we still insist that the Kuwait Stock Market is a kind of debacle. We cannot accept the plea that the retreat in prices is within limits. The only limits that were imposed were on increase in the prices of shares. Any increase was always stopped quickly and promptly.

Prices of shares in the stock market have placed shareholders in a bad situation — including banks and the government itself. People had borrowed huge sums of money by mortgaging their shares, the prices of which have been eroding. This compels shareholders to pay the losses including the interest rates on their loans to the banks.

If this scenario materialises, the treasury will have to pay. This could have been easily solved had share prices been allowed to rise.

The Kuwait Stock Market needs a push. The current value of shares is good — but this does not mean that there is any trading. Operations take place only when a dealer needs funds urgently or if the dealer decides to permanently go out of the market by liquidating his shares.

We should always bear in mind that there are many who want to exploit the situation in this country. We really do not want to see big fish swallowing small fish in this beloved country of ours.

Ahmed Al Jarallah

Too many Cubans for too few dwellings

By George Gedda

HAVANA, Cuba, (AP): Teresa, a 25-year-old professional, has put off a decision on whether to marry her boyfriend because that would mean moving in with his family.

Her predicament is just one symptom of this country's severe housing shortage: there simply is not enough space to permit young married couples to have their own apartments.

As a result, Teresa must decide whether she wants to continue living with her own family, or get married and move in with that of her prospective husband. Complicating the decision is the fact that she doesn't get along with some members of his family.

Many residences in Havana have 10 occupants in a space more suitable for three or four.

In the Nuevo Vedado section, three families, all related, shared the same two-storey home, once the residence of a pre-revolutionary oligarch. Since none of the families got along, they had their respective dinners in shifts — at 6, 8 and 10 pm eventually, each family found alternate housing, easing what had been a wrenching experience for all concerned.

The government claims every Cuban has a place to live and, indeed, the housing shortage is probably less acute here than in the overwhelming majority of other Latin American countries, where homelessness and sub-standard housing are often rampant.

But because Cuba has a different social system, the housing problems and the ways they are dealt with are not the same as they are elsewhere in Latin America.

Privacy
Because young couples often have no privacy due to overcrowded conditions at home, the government runs a string of "posadas," or inns, where they can spend a few hours alone in a modest room for a nominal fee.

Occasionally, signs saying "2 for 1" can be seen hanging from apartment building balconies. That can mean that the couple there wants a divorce and is willing to trade their apartment for two smaller ones.

In the meantime, until alternate arrangements can be found, such couples often must live under the same roof.

Rodolfo Davalos, legal director of the National Institute of Housing, admits that this unhappy situation is a "common occurrence in Cuba. But he says usually in cases of marital difficulties, the husband packs up and leaves. An alternate solution is to build a partition in the house, in effect converting it into a two-family dwelling.

In 1986, President Fidel Castro said he was appalled at the

evidence of corruption and profiteering in housing.

He discovered that state construction equipment, material and manpower were being used illegally to renovate existing housing, enabling the owners to sell at big profits.

The government struck back by forbidding the sale of housing altogether. Thus, a Cuban family that wanted to move had no choice but to trade houses with another family.

Last month, new regulations were instituted which permit the housing sales again, but only if state inspectors approve. Their main interest is to guard against profit-making by home sellers.

There are ways for young Cubans to escape from an untenable housing situation. One is to volunteer for a "microbrigade," groups of mostly young Cubans who take leave of their regular job to work at a housing construction site.

Salary
The workers continue to receive the salary from their normal job, and the state provides equipment and materials. The normal workday is 10 hours, but it is not unusual, as part of the spirit of self-sacrifice Castro tries to instill in his people, to find these workers on the job 12 to 14 hours a day.

For the typical 200-peso-a-month worker (about \$160 at the official rate), the long hours mean an income of less than a peso an hour. But the payoff comes when, after two or more years, the "microbrigadista" is entitled to move into one of the apartments, at minimal monthly payments.

Rafael, a taxi driver, worked on a microbrigade at the Alamar Apartment Complex 12 years ago. After two years, he was allowed to move into one of the apartments, paying just 21 pesos a month. The apartment will be all his in four years.

The Alamar Complex has grown to about 30,000 units. Dania, one of 18 women on a 90-person brigade, has spent two years as a construction worker there, and the long hours have taken their toll. She looked drawn and tired and said she hopes to go back soon to her normal eight-hour-a-day job as a garment worker.

Abolish
The Cuban government abolished the microbrigade system for a time, then resurrected it two years ago in an effort to meet the increasing demand not only for housing but for day-care centres and health clinics as well.

In previous years, housing was allocated largely on the basis of need. But lately, the government has been shifting its philosophy somewhat, showing a preference for workers who demonstrate diligence.

In chemical warfare it's not possible to confine the destruction

A very peculiar way of killing people

By Gary Thatcher

MOSCOW: Over an orange soda, his conversation casually turns to mass casualties.

If fighting forces lack protection, he warns, "in one stroke 5,000 troops can be lost."

The subject is chemical warfare; the question is whether there is any point in developing new lethal chemical agents.

"The country that uses new agents will have the surprise factor in their favour," he says. "In a chemical exchange, that can be decisive."

Later, he notes, "these weapons are dangerous as theatre weapons, and also to civilians."

On a chemical battlefield, he adds, "it's not possible to confine the destruction."

"These are invisible weapons. A human being does not know where the danger lies. If I see a bomb dropping, or a tank, I can protect myself. But this is a very treacherous weapon — a kind of aerosol that moves noiselessly, without warning, and hurts everyone in its way."

All in all, he says, chemical warfare "is a very peculiar way of killing people."

Anatoly Kuntsevich should know.

His formal title: lieutenant general, Soviet Ministry of Defence; academicien, Soviet Academy of Sciences.

His actual job: deputy head of the Soviet Army Chemical Corps.

He heads a fighting force that, by Western estimates, is unmatched when it comes to waging chemical warfare.

Attacked
"We don't have plans for using chemical weapons," General Kuntsevich says. "These plans would be raised only after we are attacked."

Even then, he says, the decision to launch a chemical strike would "depend on a political decision" — direct and specific approval from the Politburo of the Soviet Communist Party.

Not so long ago, the Soviet Union would not even confirm that it possessed chemical weapons. Today, it's the only nation in the world that has given figures on its stockpile. It has even conducted a tour of Western diplomats, military officers, and journalists at one of its most sensitive chemical warfare complexes.

Western specialists are deeply skeptical about the stockpile figures, and doubt they saw the most modern weapons in the Soviet chemical arsenal. Nonetheless, when it comes to Soviet chemical warfare, says Brad Roberts, a researcher at the Centre for Strategic and International Studies in Washington, "glasnost (openness) is in full swing."

Kuntsevich's willingness to meet an American journalist at a Moscow restaurant to discuss chemical war-fighting strategy underlines that phenomenon. But the general has his own reasons to talk. One is to underscore Moscow's opposition to an American buildup of a new generation of chemical weapons.

He's talking about so-called "binary" systems — shells, bombs, and rockets that contain two relatively harmless chemicals, which combine to become a lethal nerve agent only as they speed toward a target.

Balance
Kuntsevich asserts that a balance now exists between the United States and the Soviet Union in chemical war-fighting capability.

Binary weapons might provoke a new arms competition that "could lead to a growth of chemical weapons in an explosive manner. Parity will be ruptured, and that will be a

serious problem for us in security terms," he says.

In a few spare phrases, Kuntsevich has laid bare some assumptions, concerns, and confusions that complicate superpower efforts to rid themselves — and, ultimately, the world — of chemical weapons.

Is there parity between the US and USSR, or NATO and the Warsaw Pact, in chemical warfare capability?

And is the Soviet Union genuinely worried about heading off a new chemical arms race — or merely trying to preserve its own advantage in chemical war-fighting capability?

It is at this point that glasnost gives way to groping. For, although the US and Western nations know a great deal about the Soviet and Warsaw Pact chemical warfare capability, much more is cloaked in the kind of official secrecy that has prevailed for decades.

Confusing, piecemeal, and even contradictory Western intelligence estimates of the Soviet threat only exacerbate the problem.

Assessing Soviet chemical warfare capability is of more than academic interest. The US spends tens of millions of dollars each year on chemical and biological weapons defence, as well as on improving its offensive chemical warfare capability. The driving rationale is to counter a Soviet threat.

Yet the exact dimensions of that threat remains obscure.

"It's amazing how little we know after all these years," says Gordon Burck, a staff associate of the Federation of American Scientists, in Washington.

What is known, however, causes unease — and controversy — in the West.

Storage
"We know where their production facilities are. We know where their storage depots are. And we know a substantial amount of information about the material they contain," says Maj. Gen. Gerald Watson, commander of the Army's Chemical School at Fort McClellan, Ala.

The main Soviet chemical warfare proving ground is at Shikhan, southeast of Moscow. It's a complex of storage sheds, research laboratories, and test grids that has been regularly expanded since construction in the 1920s.

During 1988, new test grids — to measure the concentrations of agents released by chemical ordnance — have been under construction, according to Western intelligence officials. But there is disagreement over the significance of the grids.

"There's always ongoing construction at Shikhan," a US intelligence analyst says. "To me that doesn't mean that much. You would expect them to do that."

"The threat is static now," he adds. "The (Soviets) are maintaining currency."

Others are not so sure. "Does it make sense to start a whole new testing programme if they're only trying to consolidate a programme?" General Watson asks.

Facilities
One intelligence analyst simply refers to the new grids and other work under way at Shikhan as "anomalies" — developments that are evident, but can't be easily explained.

"They're either going all out to build up the stocks before a treaty (banning chemical weapons), or they're in the process of consolidation" of the facilities before inspections, he says.

The Soviet Union, undeniably, has extensive facilities at which it can create chemical warfare agents. The Soviets captured two German nerve gas plants at the end of World War II and

a tremendous amount of promise."

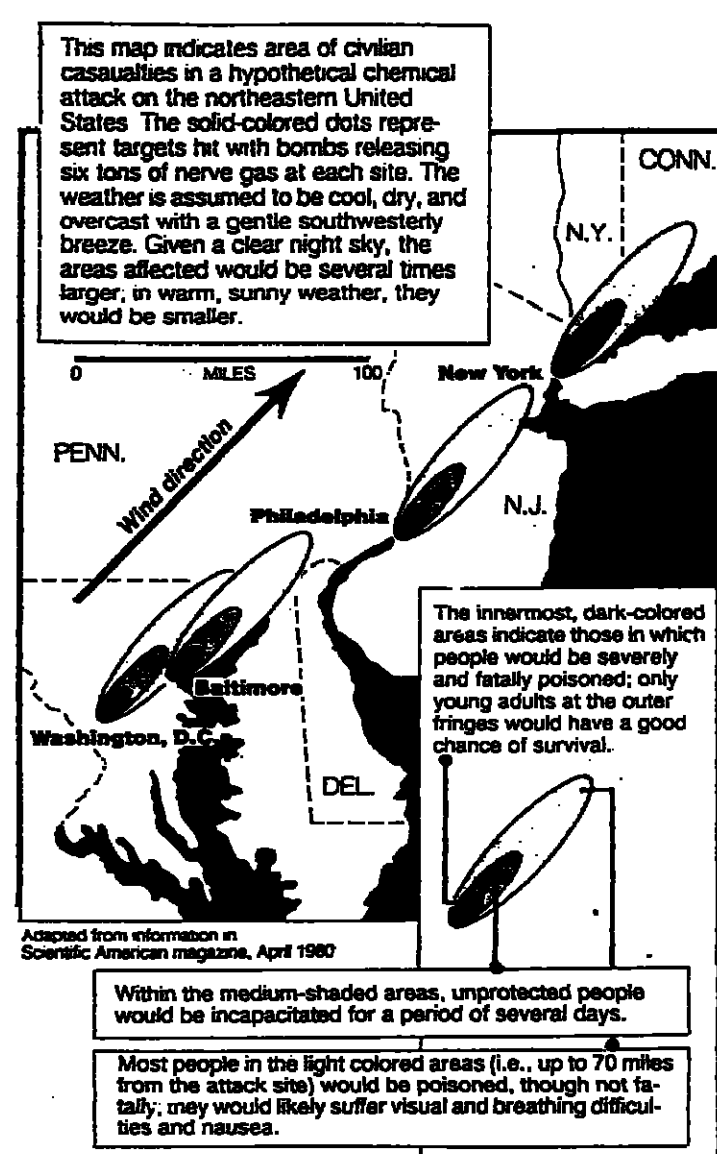
In January 1985, Rajiv was sworn in as prime minister after his Congress Party swept the highest number of parliamentary seats ever won by a single party since India became independent in 1947.

Sympathy
The victory was ascribed mainly to the wave of sympathy for Rajiv after his mother, Prime Minister Indira Gandhi, was assassinated three months earlier.

But it was helped also by Rajiv's clean image, which sprang from his age and inexperience in what many people saw as the dirty world of politics. His stewardship gave the government an unprecedented honeymoon with the news media. Even normally anti-establishment newspapers were enthusiastic.

"The parliamentary election Rajiv won four years ago... has created an illusory world for him," the Hindustan Times, a usually pro-government newspaper, said in an editorial this week. "This kind of mandate

Wind-borne warfare



transported them back to the USSR, where they still operate today. One is at a chemical complex at Volgograd.

But US analysts say there are other manufacturing facilities as well — ones that are harder to monitor.

The Soviet Union is different from the United States, where special Pentagon-controlled facilities manufacture and load chemical agents. The USSR manufactures at least some of its lethal chemical agents in bulk at ordinary chemical plants, and loads them into artillery only at special military complexes, a US intelligence analyst explains.

That, he says, makes it much more difficult to make valid assumptions about Soviet production capability.

For one thing, the Soviet Union has a large and complex chemical industry. Pesticide plants produced 348,000 tons in 1985, according to official Soviet figures. And by 1990, plans call for a rise to between 440,000 and 480,000 tons. Determining whether any fraction of that figure is siphoned off to chemical arms production is a difficult task.

Soviet officials say it would be unproductive as well. "I disagree completely with the notion that Soviet plants are made in such a way that one day they produce fertilizers, and the next day they produce nerve agent," says Kirill Dumayev, deputy chairman of the USSR State Committee on Science and Technology. "It's wrong. It's not so."

"The enterprise which produces military chemical products is very different" from a strictly civilian plant, he adds.

Compounds
He concedes, however, that some of the same compounds that are used for lethal chemical agents "could be received at any plant in any country." "Such compounds, which are certainly precursors, are used in many countries, for many purposes," he says. "Some of these can be used to produce plastics. Phosgene can be used to produce herbicides."

Many of the estimates are vague. Some refer to total tonnage, including the shells and bombs that encase the chemicals, while others refer only to "agent tons" — that is, the weight of the actual chemicals inside the shells.

"Certainly a lot of the claims are extravagant," says a West European disarmament expert. "They can't be proven. They represent an ideologically driven view of the Soviet Union."

The Soviets, for their part, claim to have only 50,000 tons of agents. But they've given no breakdown on whether that figure represents chemicals already in weapons, bulk agents kept in storage tanks, or both.

Whatever the figure represents, it is greeted with wide skepticism in the West.

"We don't believe that," Ambassador Friedersdorf says bluntly. "I don't have any confidence whatsoever in that figure."

Still, the Soviets are sticking by it. "We declared this figure. We are a responsible state. And we are prepared to prove it," says Yuri Nazarkin, the Soviet ambassador to the Geneva talks.

Ambassador Nazarkin says proof will be forthcoming — but only after the conclusion of a treaty banning chemical weapons completely.

The 50,000-ton figure was unveiled during an unprecedented tour of the Shikhan chemical warfare facility last year. Diplomats, journalists, and military observers from more than 45 countries were allowed to tour and photograph the facility. The Soviets displayed 19 chemical munitions, including rockets, chemical warheads for tactical missiles, bombs, airborne spray tanks, even a chemical hand grenade.

Backfired
The move was billed as a "confidence-building measure." If that was the purpose, however, it seriously backfired.

For years, the Soviets had maintained silence on the subject of chemical weapons. The sheer number of weapons systems on display only underscored how misleading that silence had been.

"There was an element of stupidity to that," says Nikita Smidovich, a Soviet Foreign Ministry official.

"We agreed that we had nuclear weapons that could destroy the world many times over. But we wouldn't admit we had chemical weapons."

"The Soviets were producing while negotiating," says Burck of the Federation of American Scientists. "They haven't addressed that issue. They're vulnerable on it."

Moreover, the weapons systems on display were old — too old to be a credible inventory, according to a number of Western analysts. "It was quite clear that the weapons they demonstrated were of World War II and 1950s vintage," a West European military official says. "The visit sort of begged more questions than it answered."

Others in the Pentagon also agree, arguing that any military advantage on the battlefield is likely to be exploited in a conflict. And, they contend, the mission of the Soviet decontamination troops is to keep the battle lines moving forward.

"Why would they create a force structure of 60,000... people that's equipped and structured to keep a fast-moving army under way?" asks General Watson at the Army Chemical School. "These things are there to get the vehicles back into the fight," he concludes, not just to hold a defensive position.

Back in the Moscow restaurant, General Kuntsevich says the Soviet chemical forces have laid plans only for a retaliatory chemical strike. And even public references to those "were negatively received by the high leadership," he says.

"We are not proceeding from the idea that we will be using chemical weapons," Kuntsevich concludes. But his final comment is hardly comforting.

"We will not only respond to chemical weapons with chemical weapons. We might use other, more effective means — even nuclear weapons."

The Christian Science Monitor

enjoy a clear advantage in one specific niche of chemical warfare: decontamination of buildings, equipment, and personnel.

This gives the Soviets a far greater ability to manoeuvre around, and through contaminated battlefields. But even here there may be a tendency to overstate the advantage.

One US intelligence analyst explains, for example, that while the Soviets have 40,000 troops involved in nuclear, biological, and chemical warfare decontamination, "actually, much of their work is nuclear."

Vehicles
Still, he notes, the Soviets have "around 20,000 individual vehicles" dedicated to decontamination, and up to another 20,000 could be pressed into service during a conflict. "I'd be willing to bet you couldn't find over 600 pieces of equipment in all of NATO," he says.

Some equipment in the Soviet arsenal sparks envy in the US chemical corps.

One piece is the GSP detecting system, a truck-mounted device that collects and analyses environmental samples to determine if a battlefield is contaminated.

West Germany has developed a far more sophisticated sensing vehicle, but the US has yet to acquire it.

Another Soviet device unrivaled by anything in the West is the TMS-65, essentially a giant blow-dryer on wheels that decontaminates vehicles with blasts of superheated air and fluid. This neutralizes or dissipates harmful agents.

The US, by contrast, still relies "mostly on mops and buckets" for decontamination, a US State Department official says.

"I'm acutely aware of the problem with decontamination," says Gen. Howard Eggleston, head of the Army's Space and Special Weapons Directorate. "They (the Soviets) have a capability to operate in a contaminated environment that far exceeds ours."

One congressional source argues that the Soviet defensive capability should be seen for what it is — an effort to defend troops in the event of chemical warfare, and not a sign of eagerness to fight such a conflict.

"We think they're taking the approach that defence is a good deterrent," he says.

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The Christian Science Monitor

have seen the whole picture. We believe there is more to come," says another West European analyst.

Still another asks sarcastically, "What's been going on for the past 30 years?"

Discovery
Though most Western analysts don't point up the fact, however, they did make at least one discovery at Shikhan. Among the agents in the inventory was a thickened form of the nerve agent VX. Western intelligence agencies were previously unaware that this form of the agent was in the Soviet arsenal.

Even now, analysts are divided over the purpose of the agent; some speculate it's meant to lengthen the time that a target is contaminated.

Western intelligence agencies are acutely aware of their shortcomings in assessing the Soviet chemical warfare threat. A committee of the Western European Union concluded last year that Western estimates of the Soviet stockpile "have ranged so widely that their credibility is jeopardized."

There is widespread agreement, however, that the Soviets

TODAY IN HISTORY

1522 — Lubeck declares war on Denmark and lays waste to Bornholm.

1641 — Portuguese surrender Malacca in Malaysia to the Dutch.

1648 — Peace between Spain and the Netherlands is signed at Munster.

1788 — Charles Edward Stuart, young pretender to British throne, dies in Rome.

1902 — Britain signs treaty with Japan providing for independence of China and Korea.

1933 — Adolf Hitler is named chancellor of Germany.

1943 — Soviets destroy German Army southwest of Stalingrad in World War II.

1948 — Mahatma Gandhi is assassinated by a Hindu in New Delhi, India.

1957 — United Nations calls on South Africa to reconsider its apartheid policy.

1962 — UN General Assembly adopts Asian-African resolution calling on Portugal to halt repressive measures against Angola.

1964 — South Vietnamese General Nguyen Khanh seizes power in coup in Saigon.

1970 — Two students are killed and more than 20 wounded as demonstrators storm presidential palace in Philippine capital of Manila.

1972 — British troops kill 13 civilians during rioting in Londonderry, Northern Ireland.

1979 — White Rhodesians approve new constitution to eventually give blacks control of the nation.

1984 — Libya's leader Moammar Khaddafi, in interview with French radio network, warns there could be military escalation in Chad because of France's new defence line in that north-central African nation.

1986 — President Ferdinand Marcos of the Philippines pledges to relinquish power peacefully if he loses to Corason Aquino in the Feb 7 election.

1988 — Prince Norodom Sihanouk says he is resigning as head of Kampuchea's anti-Vietnamese coalition.

ENVIRONMENT

Environmental concern in the Arab world

By S. Faizi

THE world has at last, reluctantly though, woken up to the fact that conservation is not just a philosophy, but the only means to ensure the sustainability of the life supporting systems as well as development.

The cost we have paid for learning this lesson has been enormous. It is with a sense of disbelief that one looks at the extent of damage caused to the earth by the fast pace of technological development in this century.

Man-made deserts in arid lands are growing at the rate of 6 million hectares a year. The endless parade of floods and droughts, a boomerang of ecological mismanagement, takes devastating toll, human and material, in the Southern world.

About half of the rain-forest has been destroyed in the tropics just in the last two decades. Over 9000 recorded animal species face the threat of extinction. The Northern countries have been left with the massive volume of carbon dioxide resulting from the burning of fossil fuels is gradually increasing the global temperature.

All the major river systems in the world carry polluted water today. The increasing level of chlorofluorocarbons is destroying the earth's protective cover of ozone layer. This collage of tragedies is slowly but definitely impairing the capacity of the earth to continue to hold the phenomenon of life.

New beginnings

Reversing this trend poses a formidable challenge. Nevertheless, the environmental movement has grown enough today to face the challenge. From the natural history-based arguments in the beginning of the century, it has grown today to integrate a wide spectrum of perspectives such as biological, development and ethnic, and is evolving into defining new

paradigms for sustainable development and collective survival.

Crystallized by the UN Conference on Human Environment in 1972 and catalyzed by the world conservation strategy since it was launched in 1980, the environmental concerns are today finding an increasingly important place on the political agenda of nations, thanks to the recent debate generated by the report of the UN-sponsored World Commission on Environment and Development (WCED).

The Arab concern

Environmental concerns in the Arab world, although relatively recent, is fast finding wider acceptance. This is reflected in the statement of a high level ministerial conference of Arab countries on the environment held in Tunisia in 1986, which created an Arab Ministerial Council on Environment for effective co-operation among the Arab nations.

The Arab Environment Day, the Arab equivalent of the World Environment Day which falls on June 5, was observed in many Arab countries this year by organizing various environmental education activities aimed at enhancing the public awareness.

The Arab world, the largest homogeneous region in the world, offers a mosaic of development patterns, and hence different patterns of environmental crises.

The more obvious common denominators, however, are growing desertification, decimation of species richness and land use conflicts.

The first Arab conference on environmental education held in Kuwait in 1976 addressed these issues as well as the ecological costs of fast industrial development.

The 11 individuals and organizations from different parts of the Arab region, selected for this year's Global-500 Awards of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) indicate examples of

outstanding environmental achievements in the region. For instance, the Regional Organization for the Protection of the Marine Environment (ROPME), based in Kuwait, is regarded as a model for co-operative programmes on sea protection by other regions.

Although the current efforts for protection are no match to the relentless deterioration of the environmental quality, there is reason for hope.

The Saudi Arabian scenario

Environmental protection activities in the Kingdom gathered momentum with the establishment of the Meteorological and Environmental Protection Agency in 1977.

Environmental concerns are pursued by some sectoral agencies as well. For instance, the Royal Commission for Jubail and Yanbu strives to ensure environmental protection in the industrial cities that it is developing and their efforts were recognized by the international community by conferring on them the prestigious Kasasaka Environmental Prize of the UNEP this year.

The Kingdom has been active also in the global debate on perspectives on environment and development. Dr Saleh Athel, President of the KAAST, has been a member of the WCED, chaired by the Norwegian Prime Minister Gro Harlem Brundtland, whose report is regarded as "the most important document of the decade".

Conservation of natural resources had assumed a high priority in the Kingdom which led to the birth of the National Commission for Wildlife Conservation and Development (NCWCD) two years ago.

Under the patronage of HRH Prince Saud Al Faisal and the professional excellence of Dr Abdulaziz H. Abuzinada the NCWCD has, in the two years' time achieved remarkable progress in building the basis for the protection and

development of the wildlife heritage of the Kingdom.

Despite the apparent sparseness of the land, the country holds a rich and varied animal life, in a variety of terrestrial and marine habitats. Fifty three species of mammals are recorded out of which four are endemic to Saudi Arabia.

The bird fauna offers a splendid variety with over 450 species. The Peninsula is a major migratory route for birds between European, Asian and African regions and hence merits an important place in ornithogeography.

The less conspicuous faunal groups such as insects are also fairly well represented with about a quarter of them being endemic.

The decimation of the wildlife due to hunting and habitat destruction has been disproportionately high. The legendary Arabian Oryx became extinct in the wild; the Nubian ibex and the three species of gazelles are also facing a threatened future; the cheetah was last seen in 1951.

The Houbara Bustard has become locally extinct along most of its former distribution range, and heavy pressure is put on its remaining small populations by the growing practice of falconry.

The Arabian Bustard has been brought to the brink of extinction, however, an NCWCD team spotted one bird after an intensive search of about a month in the Tihama region last year.

One of the means to restore the endangered species is captive breeding and the NCWCD

has, therefore, established centres for captive breeding and research at Taif and Thumamah focusing on the Houbara Bustard, Arabian Oryx and the endemic gazelles.

Results

The habitat restoration programmes are also yielding appreciable results in the protected areas managed by the NCWCD. The concept of protected areas, however, is not new in the country. Traditional range reserve systems known as Hemas had existed in many parts of the country which were subject to rational management practices either by law or consensus. It is only in the recent past that such systems were undone.

The whole range of confrontations a conservationist faces with the GNP-obsessed developers, in any part of the world, could be boiled down to a single question: why conservation? With all the available scientific knowledge about the complex processes by which nature maintains itself, it is easy to answer this question. But even before the scientific deciphering of ecological principles, the need for conservation and sustainable use of resources was apparent to the traditional wisdom of the ancient peoples.

The story of the proverbial goose that laid golden eggs is told in all old cultures. Conservation and sustainable use of resources mean just what the moral of the story says. Kill the goose not, let it live on to lay the eggs. For that is the only strategy to ensure our collective survival.



The legendary Arabian oryx: facing extinction

By Kristin Helmore

UNITED NATIONS, N.Y. Will a more efficient timber industry in Africa promote the conservation or the destruction of the continent's rain forests?

This question is being asked at the UN Development Programme (UNDP) in connection with two projects aimed at enhancing Africa's timber trade and increasing its profitability.

UNDP will spend \$1.7 million to reactivate the tropical timber industry in 13 countries in western and central Africa. And it will spend \$3.2 million to promote trade in forest products, develop marketing strategies, and rehabilitate the forestry industry (mostly tree plantations) in eastern and southern Africa.

For an agency that has been warning the world of the impending catastrophe of deforestation, UNDP's promotion of the African timber industry may sound like a contradiction. But if the industry improves its cost efficiency, its timber will become more competitive on international markets, and the countries involved will not have to cut down more and more forests to make a profit, says Jorge Lissner, one of the project's designers. They will also be encouraged to replant logged areas to provide for future exports.

"There is no profitability in the long term without conservation," he says. "Either governments will replant, or they will be sawing off the branches on which they're sitting."

Some environmentalists, however, are especially concerned that the West African project may destroy some of Africa's last virgin forests (West and Central Africa hold 18 per cent of the world's remaining rain forests). They are sceptical about both projects, saying that logging and conservation rarely — if ever — go hand in hand.

"There are few, if any, known cases where this has been done sustainably," says David Wirth of the Natural Resource Defence Council in Washington. "These rain forests are very complicated ecological structures. Once a forest is gone, it's virtually impossible to reconstruct."

Some experts fear that, as logging is streamlined, making short-term profits is likely to override long-term conservation.

"That is a risk," admits Lissner. However, he insists that "we are not accelerating the depletion of the forest. The trees would be cut anyway. The purpose of the project is to increase profitability by proper grading and more efficient collection of timber, and the negotiating of lower ocean



Forests cleared and burned for agriculture in Africa. The continent has lost 50 per cent of its forests since 1900.

UNDP reactivating tropical forests

freight prices."

Africa has lost 50 per cent of its forests since 1900. UNDP estimates that 55 million Africans in 20 nations are desperately short of wood for fuel, and this could double by the year 2000.

The timber projects are a piece of a large effort by UNDP, the World Resources Institute, and the World Bank to "devise a global strategy to maintain rain forests," says Lissner.

Most forest land in Africa belongs to local governments, which grant concessions to logging companies — usually foreign concerns — to cut timber. The UNDP projects aim at strengthening the bargaining power of the 13-nation African Timber Organisation (ATO), based in Gabon. As a result, says Lissner, the ATO, which promotes Africa's timber industry, will be able to negotiate more favourable concession contracts that will include tougher requirements for replanting logged areas.

However, environmentalists say that any project focussed on the timber industry should include specific guidelines for conservation. This one does not.

"Every project should be part of the solution (to deforestation)," says Robert Winterbottom of the International Institute for Environment and Development in Washington. "There's been a history of

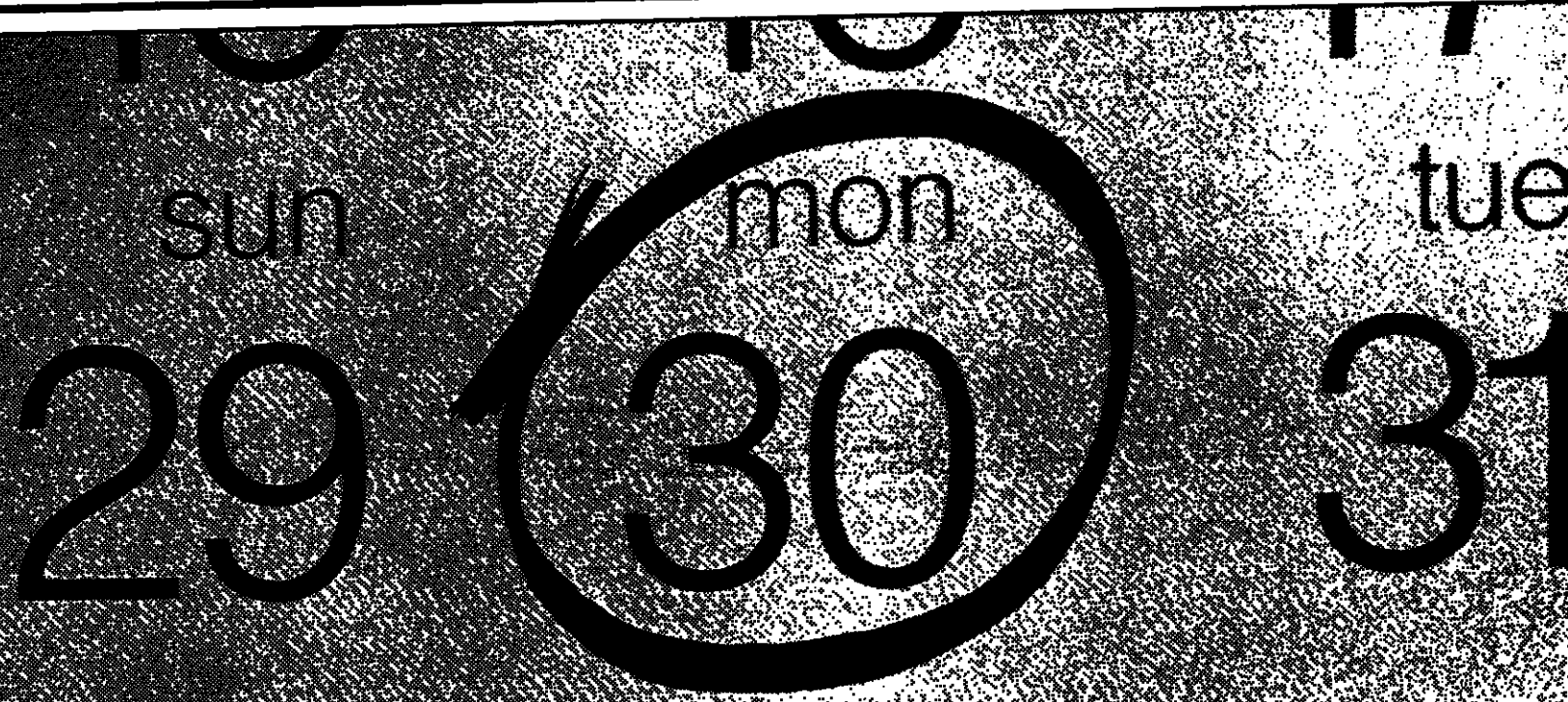
emphasis on the industrial side without doing enough on the forest management side."

Within a 32-page document outlining strategies for training local tree graders, increasing private investments in the timber industry, and improving transportation of timber from inland forests to coastal ports, there is a one-line mention of "conservation of forest ecosystems."

The project does, however, call for the wider use of a greater number of tree species. "In taking out (only a) few trees, a lot of damage is done to the rest of the stand," says Peter Hazelwood of the World Resources Institute. "The process is much more efficient if you take out more varieties so that you can log a smaller area in a less destructive and more sustainable manner."

Nevertheless, the World Resources Institute recently published a report on the extent to which many current government policies actually encourage deforestation. And Winterbottom says: "There's not one country where industrial wood production is coming from sustainably managed (tropical) forest. People don't understand what it takes to regenerate these forests. They're just being cut."

Lissner concedes that he knows of logged and sustainably managed. 1988, The Christian Science Monitor.



TODAY

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Double miracle for twin sisters

By Ian Miller

IDENTICAL twins gave birth within minutes of each other—despite their pregnancies being separated by more than a month.

Doctors are amazed how one of the 19-year-old sisters "held back" for her sister to catch up. Gynaecologist Carlo Saggio, who helped bring Rosa and Laura Calgano's babies into the world, said: "I have no doubt Laura unconsciously prolonged her pregnancy so she could wait for her sister."

Their labour pain started simultaneously in the middle of the night. It was Rosa who gave birth first, producing a 9lb 7oz son two minutes before Laura's son weighed in at 8lb 6oz.

The sisters gave birth in

adjacent beds at a hospital near their home in Sicily.

"It was a wonderful scene. When the mums were handed their babies they went crazy with joy," said Dr Saggio.

"Their husbands were yelling their happiness. I was thrown like a ball from the arms of one to the other."

Laura's pregnancy was beset with problems, even causing her doctor to consider an abortion. She said: "The birth was an incredible experience. I felt if I delivered my baby along with my sister nothing serious would happen to me."

Rosa said: "To have a child is a woman's greatest joy. To deliver your baby at the same time as your sister is the most beautiful thing in the world."



Rosa and Laura Calgano with their babies.

Italian artists join 'intifada' art exhibition

By Gail Fitzer

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM. (Reuters): An emaciated Jewish ghost holds a Palestinian boy's hand behind the barbed wire of a Nazi concentration camp.

The drawing is one of 18 works by Italian artists created to express solidarity with the year-old Palestinian uprising against Israel's occupation of the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

In an exhibition in Arab East Jerusalem, the Italian artists have been joined by four Palestinians and two Israelis.

Entitled "Kufia, Italian artists for Palestine" (Kufia is the Italian spelling of Keffiyeh, the Arab headscarf), it is the first display on the uprising in which works by foreign artists have appeared.

Victims

"I prefer to draw the Jew with the dress of the victim and not with the dress of the soldier, the oppressor, because victims are the same in all wars," said artist Vauro Senesi, describing his drawing of a Jewish ghost in prison uniform.

"Palestinian children in an Israeli prison are victims of a concentration camp. I think Jews

The first display on the Palestinian uprising by foreign artists is being shown in Arab east Jerusalem.

who were in Nazi concentration camps can feel what Palestinian children feel in a concentration camp," the 35-year-old artist from Rome said.

Most Israelis, even those critical of the occupation, regard any comparison between their rule in the territories and Nazi persecution of Jews during World War two as deeply offensive.

Italian artist Patrezo Asposeto said in a statement at the exhibition's opening: "We thought it was important to take a step against the Israeli leadership, insensitivity and repression."

This includes the deportation policy, arrests without trial, the sieges of refugee camps and...the attempt to annihilate the national and cultural identity of this people."

More than 350 Palestinians, and 14 Israelis, have died in the Arab uprising. Israeli authorities have arrested more than 20,000 Palestinians, jailed 4,000 without

Palestinians to feel they have friends outside who are aware of what is happening," she added.

Israeli artist David Reeb painted a Palestinian sweeping a street near his Tel Aviv home. "It represents the exploitation of Palestinians as labourers, which makes it difficult for Israel to give back the territories," he said.

"I'm glad for the opportunity to participate with my work in an act designed to show solidarity with the struggle the Palestinian people are currently engaged in. I'm sorry more Israeli artists are not participating."

Jose Munoz, a 46-year-old Argentinian painter who has been living in Milan for 10 years, also invoked the memory of the six million Jews killed in the Nazi Holocaust.

He painted a Jewish star alongside the Islamic crescent moon, inside a Christian cross, with a slogan saying that to kill three or four people a day was no less a crime than killing six million.

"I feel it is possible for people who were mistreated not to mistreat others. I hope the different groups will talk and arrive at an agreement. There is no other way out. We are working to try and find a way out, to stop the battles and to talk," he said.

Schoolyard massacre reunites lost couple

By Tony Brenna

THE California schoolyard massacre has reunited a Kampuchean refugee with his lost wife after ten years.

Kim Ly was watching the horrifying television reports of last week's shooting rampage in Stockton when he saw the mother of his son holding up a picture of the young boy, who had been gunned down in the playground.

Rathanan Or was one year old when Kim was separated from

his family during the brutal Khmer Rouge takeover of Kampuchea a decade ago.

He fled to the US and when all efforts to contact his family failed, Kim remarried and settled in Ohio.

He thought he would never see them again.

He was not told when mother and son arrived in America and settled in Stockton.

"Then I was watching the horrifying news reports, and I saw my wife holding a picture of my little son," he said.

"My eyes filled with tears when I learned that he was one of the five Asian children who had been killed."

He flew to comfort his wife and to break the news that he had married again and now had a two-year-old son.

"I am delighted he is alive and I don't want to disrupt his new life," said his former wife, In Or.

"I've lost my baby but God has given him a new child and he must give it the love he would have given our boy if he had lived and we had stayed together."



Victim: Rathanan Or

She who shouts the loudest wins a prize!



One of the contestants at the shouting competition.

TOKYO, (AP): A 27-year-old Tokyo teacher won top honours and 50,000 yen (\$400) in an annual shouting contest bellowing a plea to a popular singer at 116.7 decibels, organizers said.

Ryuta Sasahara's winning holler was a request for the singer-wife of a popular Japanese actor to set the record straight about rumours their marriage is falling.

"Seiko Matsuda, give it to us straight when you will get divorced," Sasahara bellowed.

The sound of a ringing telephone registers some 70 decibels, traffic noises reach 100 decibels, and a person's hearing can become damaged at 150 decibels, organizers said.

Masahiro Shoda, 20, a student from neighbouring Chiba prefecture, took the "fighting spirit" award with the shout, "Tokyo Giants, try harder"—a 115-decibel yell aimed at the third-place finisher in Japanese professional baseball's Central League.

Eighteen-year-old Noboru

Takahashi, a student from Kanagawa prefecture, screamed an insult at Tamori, the one-eyed Japanese comedian: "Tamori, you idiot!" at 114.8 decibels to snare him the "good performance prize."

Shoda's loud-mouthed effort brought him 30,000 yen (\$240), and Takahashi won 20,000 Yen (\$160).

Two "unique prizes" were given to Enji Nishitani, a 23-year-old student who complained of Tokyo's new indoor sports stadium with his screech, "Tokyo Dome, you stupid thing!"

and to student Masako Kinkozan, 16, with her squawk: "Mikako Kotani, you look like Ultraman!" Kotani was double bronze medalist at the Seoul Olympics in synchronized swimming and the cricket-like Ultraman is a cartoon superhero.

The contest was sponsored by the Adams Confectionery Products division of Warner-Lambert K.K., makers of Hall's cough drops.

Ex-envoy attacks Nancy

By George Gordon

NANCY REAGAN's departure from the White House last week has been soured by a bitter and embarrassing attack from her husband's former secretary.

Helene Von Damm has written a book which denounces the First Lady as a "meddler" and "schemer" who defied and manipulated her husband while looking after her celebrity friends.

The author rose from campaign worker to become the President's private secretary and was eventually appointed Ambassador to her native Austria. But she was abruptly recalled from Vienna because, she claims, of Nancy.

"I would still have my career if not for her," says the book. At Reagan's Side. "She's the one who did me in."

Von Damm, 50, had been in Austria only six months when she was forced to return to Washington. Her fourth marriage had just ended in divorce but, she said, Secretary of State George Shultz had assured her the break-up would not affect her diplomatic post.

"But titbits, innuendo and gossip from Washington said I'd never survive it. Mrs Reagan was saying four husbands were too much."

The 341-page book is being devoured by Washington's inner circle, who see it as one of the most damning exposures of Nancy's influence on the Presidency.

"The President would never



Von Damm: said Nancy Reagan was a meddler

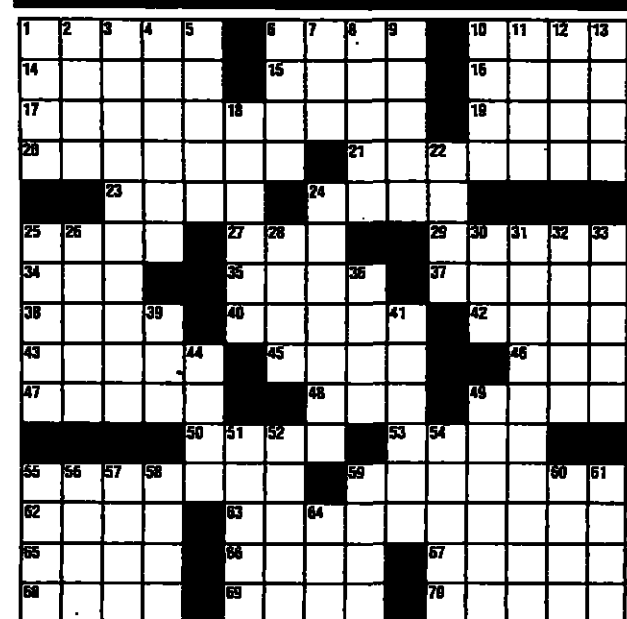
have got far without her," claims the author. "She's perfect for him because he's warm and nice and unable to conceive of a Machiavellian thought. She does on being the power behind the throne."

Protected "And she protected her important friends. Foot-soldiers like me would tap our contacts for campaign contributions. We sweated out everyone we knew. Not Mrs Reagan. She was reluctant to ask her beautiful people for money."

Von Damm says that in 1980 she was barred from flying with the President because, an aide told her, Nancy did not want the public to see her husband travelling with another woman.

"Mrs Reagan was not interested in issues. She was motivated by celebrities and how things looked in the Press."

TODAY'S CROSSWORD



- ACROSS
- Ball game
 - Surprised sound
 - Liner
 - Oahu
 - farewell
 - Hodgepodge
 - Precious
 - Yellowstone
 - Park sight
 - "A Death in the Family" author
 - Flight attendant
 - Speaker's prop
 - Grist of the opera
 - Pericles's land
 - Licentious
 - Freudian concern
 - Mother-of-pearl
 - nutshell (succinctly)
 - "Eye of..." Macbeth
 - Mah-jongg pieces
 - Long, long tale
 - Awe
 - Parental admonition
 - Energy sources
 - Gardner of mystery
 - Medicore mark
 - Wagner heroine
 - Shoemaker's helper
 - Belonging to Harry's successor
 - Disembark
 - Bombastic
 - Popular cuisine
 - Place for a ring
 - "Symphonie Espagnole" composer
 - Intellectual's
- DOWN
- retreat
 - Woody's son
 - Lucie's dad
 - Tennis name of fame
 - Earl or baron
 - Gaelic
 - Maestro
 - Koussevitzky
 - Broadway blockbuster
 - Thanks—!
 - Cherry picker, e.g.
 - Masticated
 - Ethiopia's largest province
 - Nothing but
 - Inane
 - Conundrum
 - Scram!
 - Gigantic
 - Road to Rome
 - Hammer part
 - Quaker, for example
 - Copper
 - Loomed
 - Actress Bonet et al.
 - Growing outward
 - "Bent" actor
 - Richard
 - Earl or baron
 - Part of the skyline
 - Name for a fille
 - Park, Colorado resort
 - Long
 - Aggregate: Abbr.
 - Pay
 - Garage event
 - "People Will Say We're"
 - Stage remark
 - At no time
 - Funnyman Johnson et al.
 - Show approval
 - Aesopian loser
 - "Winnie — Pu"
 - Jordan's queen
 - Canal of song
 - Mountain, in Frankfurt
 - Contemporary artist and set designer
 - CIA predecessor

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:

PLOTS MAPLE CARP
ACHE OLEAN OLEO
STEN VOTED NONO
SABOTEUR STEER
DIRER IONIA
GATS FRANCHOT
PASSE BIOS TIDE
ASH SHEENAS GEE
LEOS ENDO COHAN
MATTER OF EARS
KYOTO PLAIT
ALFIE RELATERS
HALT SEETO IRAE
EMIT KOSAR ORCA
METS ISTLE NATS

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF
MAKE SURE OF YOUR ENTRIES

Neither vulnerable. South deals.

NORTH
♠ J 5
♥ J 10
♦ A 10 9
♣ K Q 9 6 5 3

WEST
♠ K 10 4
♥ 9 8 6 4 2
♦ 8 5 3
♣ 10 7

EAST
♠ A 8 2
♥ 7 5 3
♦ 7 6 4 2
♣ A J 4

SOUTH
♠ Q 9 7 6 3
♥ A K Q
♦ K Q J
♣ 8 2

The bidding:

South West North East

1 NT Pass 3 NT Pass

Pass Pass

Opening lead: Four of ♣

It might have looked as if declarer was engaged in an act of charity. In truth, he was simply making sure all his cards worked for him.

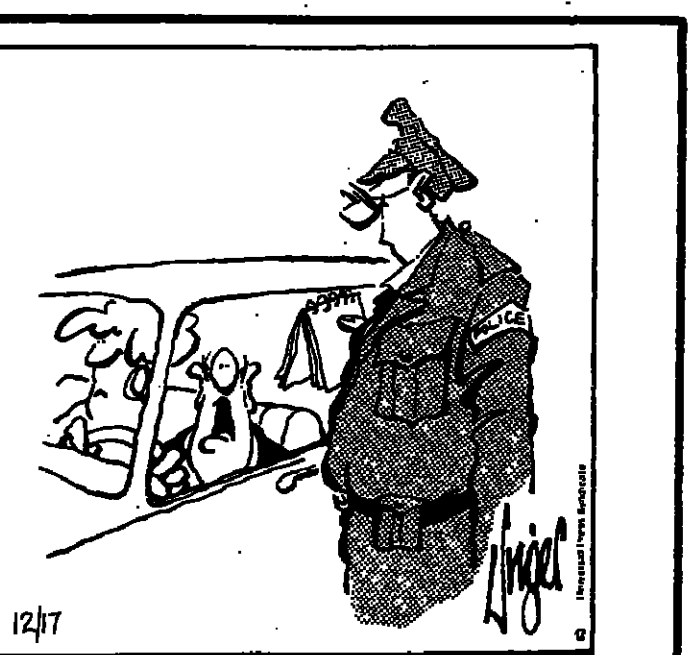
South's one trump opening bid was in keeping with modern theory, which permits a concealed five-card major if the hand is balanced and contains stoppers in at least three suits. He heartily endorses North's decision to bid the game in no trump. Even though he had a six-card minor suit, his hand was balanced and nine tricks rated to be

easy to make than 11. West led his fourth-best heart. Declarer won in hand and led the eight of clubs. West covered with the ten, but declarer graciously allowed him to win the trick! No matter what West did, declarer was in control. He won the heart continuation, led a club to the queen to force out the ace, and the ace of diamonds was the entry to the table to run the good clubs.

With six tricks in the red suits, declarer needed only three from clubs to fulfill his contract, and his play was designed to cater for just that. He was safe on any 3-2 break.

To appreciate his carefulness, look what would have happened had declarer put up a club honor on the first lead of the suit. When East refuses to win the trick, the club suit is shut out completely. As the cards lie, declarer would lack the necessary dummy entries to set up and run the clubs, because only the ace of diamonds would fill that need.

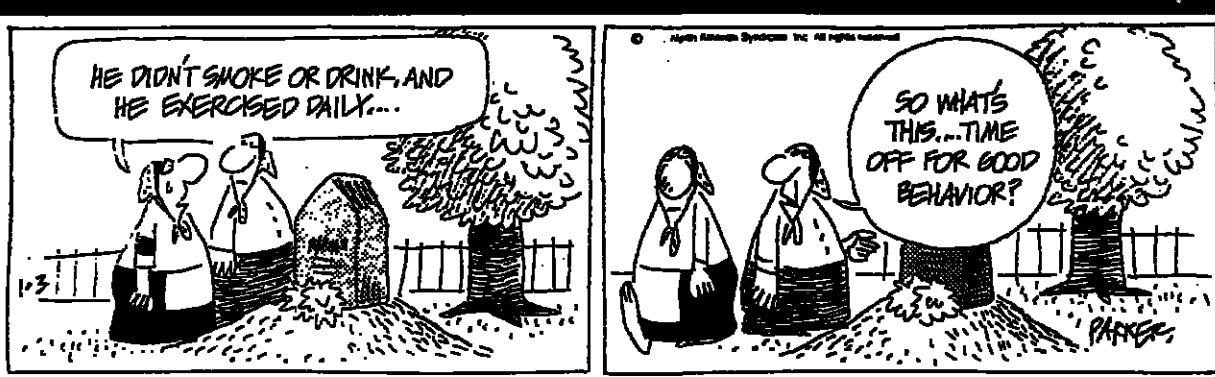
If declarer needed five tricks from clubs, his only chance was to lead twice toward dummy and hope that West held the ace, guarded no more than twice. Since he required fewer, he could afford the luxury of countering an enemy hold-up play by preserving his club honors and so forcing them to win.



"It's an emergency. She's gotta be at the hairdresser in three minutes."

THE WIZARD OF ID

By Brant Parker and Johnny Hart



B.C.

By Johnny Hart



YOUR STARS



Aries (March 20 - April 18)

The situation is a little complicated and you should tread most carefully. You should do your best to correct any mistakes you might have made. Avoid neglecting some small infection. Be realistic.



Taurus (April 19 - May 19)

Try to keep things as simple as possible. You should avoid exaggerations and you should not neglect your limitations. However that does not mean not even trying to succeed. Be sensible.



Gemini (May 20 - June 20)

You will have to work hard this week if you want to meet your commitments. No time for distractions. You should try to spend a few moments by yourself deliberating your next step. Be fair.



Cancer (June 21 - July 21)

You will be able to do the right thing at the right time most of the time. However, you must avoid taking too much if anything for granted. Make sure you eat an adequate diet. Be moderate.



Leo (July 22 - Aug 21)

You will easily tire and not everything will be as simple as first appeared. You should be prepared to make a few changes in the light of experience. Keep a little more room for manoeuvre and a bit of energy in reserve. Be tactful.



Virgo (Aug 22 - Sept 21)

This is going to be a pleasant day for you only you must not try for too much. You should not do anything that might upset your partner. And avoid spending money quite so lavishly. Be tolerant.



Libra (Sept 22 - Oct 22)

You will be better able to deal with a matter that has been problematic of late. You will have something to be really pleased about. You should not become fadish about some small health problem. Be versatile.



Scorpio (Oct 23 - Nov 21)

The Moon's influence will help you to avoid drawing false conclusions. You should not try to do by force what you have not been able to achieve by normal means.



Sagittarius (Nov 22 - Dec 21)

You will have some doubts to overcome but you will succeed in doing so. You should not delay something you know ought to be done right away. Something you have learnt recently will be of great help to you. Be frugal.



Capricorn Dec 22 - Jan 19

The prospects are good only you must not do anything precipitate. You should not allow work to drown out your private life completely. Try to show a little more goodwill towards others. Be polite.



Aquarius (Jan 30 - Feb 18)

It would help you to know certain results before proceeding but do not wait too long. There is something urgent that should be done before all else. You should have more faith in yourself. No need to get discouraged. Be discreet.



Pisces (Feb 19 - March 19)

For you the situation is quite straight forward only you must make sure you do not go on any sort of spending spree. You must not break a promise you have made. All kinds of exaggerations and distortions of the truth are to be avoided.

Box office hits likely to get cold shoulder

Race begins for Oscar nominations

By Ivor Davis

WITH Oscar time fast approaching, the most important rule to remember is that the star of your favourite film, and particularly the movies that cleaned up at the box office, will most likely be given the cold shoulder when Academy Award nominations are announced on Feb 15.

So what if *Who Framed Roger Rabbit* delighted audiences to the tune of more than \$150 million. Big deal if such other huge money-makers as *Coming to America*, *Crocodile Dundee II*, *Die Hard* or *Rambo III* packed them in at the theatre.

Don't expect to see the stars of those movies — Eddie Murphy, Paul Hogan, Bruce Willis or Sylvester Stallone, respectively — delivering thank-you speeches when the 61st annual Academy Awards presentation takes place on March 29.

For movie moguls and stars the Oscar race is already at full speed. A fortune has been spent and millions more will be used to bankroll campaigns to win the hearts, minds and votes of the 4,000 members of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences. And one thing is certain: Big bucks at the box office do not influence those members.

Favourites
In Hollywood the favourites are already out of the starting gate. Let's look at the women. Ahead of the competition once again is Meryl Streep, who won an Academy Award for best actress for *Kramer vs Kramer* (1979) and *Sophie's Choice* (1982). This year she has a stranglehold on the best-actress stakes for her portrayal of an Australian mother accused of murdering her infant daughter in *A Cry in the Dark*.

Who can beat that much-decorated mistress of accents who received the New York Critics Circle Award for *A Cry in the Dark*? The Los Angeles Film Critics Association cast its votes for Christine Lahti for her role as the fugitive mother in *Running on Empty*. Other reviewers favour Jodie Foster as a rape victim in *The Accused*.

In addition to the favourites for best-actress Oscar are Amy Irving as a New York intellectual looking for a husband in *Crossing Delancey*, Bette Midler playing it straight for a change as a

Don't expect to see stars like Eddie Murphy, Paul Hogan and Sylvester Stallone delivering thank-you speeches at 61st annual Academy awards presentation on March 29. When it comes to Oscars, big bucks do not influence Academy members.



A possible nomination for Shirley Maclaine as Madame Sousatzka.

singer in *Beaches* and Barbara Hershey for her role as a mother opposing apartheid in *A World Apart*.

Campaigns are being waged for Shirley Maclaine as the flamboyant piano teacher in *Madame Sousatzka*; Jessica Lange as the wife of a football legend for *Everybody's All American*; and Sigourney Weaver for her role as a simian researcher in *Dan in the Real World*.

I would forget Maclaine, who is not popular these days in Tinseltown because of her eccentric behaviour, and Weaver, whose film was disappointing at the box office. Melanie Griffith, who

plays the title role in the comedy *Working Girl*, may get a nomination — but not the trophy.

What about the men? Expect nominations for Dustin Hoffman as an autistic savant in *Rain Man* and Tom Cruise as the slick, younger brother. Don't overlook Jeremy Irons for his dual role as twin brothers in *Dead Ringers* (The New York Critics Circle chose him for their best-actor award); Sam Neill, who more than held his own opposite Streep in *A Cry in the Dark*; and Tom Hanks as a comic in *Punchline*.

Two long shots for best-actor are Miami Vice's Edward James

Olmos as a Los Angeles teacher in the fact-based drama *Stand and Deliver* and Michael Keaton as a reformed drug addict in *Clean and Sober*. My money is on Gene Hackman as the FBI agent in *Mississippi Burning* in which he turns in the kind of role that won him the 1971 Oscar for *The French Connection*.

When it comes to choosing the best film of the year Academy members have shown a preference for fact-based stories. The *Last Emperor* swept the 1988 Oscars with nine wins from nine nominations. In fact, no fewer than five of the last seven best-picture winners were films about real people — *Chariots of Fire* (1981), *Gandhi* (1982), *Amadeus* (1984), *Out of Africa* (1985) and *Empire*.

This year's voters have a bumper crop of fact-based films from which to choose, including *Gorillas in the Mist*; *A Cry in the Dark*; *Patty Hearst*, with Natasha Richardson in the title role as the kidnapped millionaire's daughter; *Bird*, Clint Eastwood's film about the late jazzman Charlie Parker; and *Tucker: The Man and His Dream*, Francis Ford Coppola's tale about eccentric automaker Preston Tucker.

Best picture

The short list for best picture, which often includes best director, consists of English director Alan Parker's *Mississippi Burning*, Aussie Fred Schepisi's *A Cry in the Dark*, Barry Levinson's *Rain Man*, Mike Nichols' *Working Girl* and Eastwood's (a dark horse) *Bird*.

Oliver Stone's recently released *Talk Radio* is an out-

sider because the director has been bad-mouthing Hollywood, which does not sit well with the Academy. The New York Critics liked director Lawrence Kasdan's *The Accidental Tourist* and David Cronenberg's *Dead Ringers*.

The British film adaptation of Charles Dickens' classic *Little Dorrit* — which consists of two films, both three hours long — got the Los Angeles Film Critics' best-supporting actor award for Sir Alec Guinness as William Dorrit. However, the picture could be a dark-horse candidate as best film.

Wide open

Hollywood publicist and marketing specialist Murray Weissman, who has been hired by Warner Bros. to push *Bird* for best picture and Diane Venora for best supporting actress, says this year is wide open when it comes to choices. "A few weeks ago no one could name five contenders — or even one. Now, suddenly, there are lots of front-runners," he says. (To qualify for consideration a picture must have played for one week in a theatre in Los Angeles before the end of 1988).

"We don't worry about box office (returns)," says Weissman. *Rambo III* and *Twins* made big money but they will not be nominated because Academy members are not swayed by what a picture makes. What the Oscars build down to is getting the right people to see the right movies. In most cases that means loving hands and an investment of money and passion to promote and stay with a picture."

Oscar contenders: Sam Neill and Meryl Streep in *A Cry in the Dark*.

ACTRESS Glenn Close is resigned to the inevitable. Once more she has been cast as the woman cinema audiences love to hate.

Her portrayal of the psychotic Alex Forrest in *Fatal Attraction* — the film that caused more husbands to squirm in their seats than any other before or since — inspired violent reactions and blizzard of personal hate mail.

Her latest film, *Dangerous Liaisons*, is set in 18th century France. But stepping back 200 years hasn't helped sweeten the response of audiences in America.

Virtually every time her character, the devilish Marquise de Merteuil, appears on screen, she is met by an outburst of booing.

She may have swapped her New York business suits for ruffles and silk gowns, but the inner evil is undisturbed by time.

In *Fatal Attraction*, Glenn played a woman who relentlessly pursues her married lover and his family after a one-night stand.

In *Dangerous Liaisons*, filmed against a backdrop of sumptuous French chateaux, she is an aristocrat who uses her sexual powers to destroy those around her.

The Marquise's chilling philosophy is: "Love is something you use, not something you fall into like quicksand."

So striking are the similarities that the crew of *Liaisons* jokingly re-christened the film *Daughter of Fatal Attraction*.

Dangerous Liaisons opens here in March, but Glenn doesn't think the British reaction will be any kinder.

"I'm aware that this is a manipulative woman the audience might well hate," she says.

"She is a brilliant woman, a woman of great ability with nowhere to go. Born in another century she might have been Margaret Thatcher or someone

A woman audiences just love to hate ...

Glenn Close: met by an outburst of booing in *Dangerous Liaisons*.

like that. "But with no outlet, her brilliance festers and it's all turned inward towards this terrible society she lives in."

Decadent and bored, the Marquise teams up with a former lover, the Vicomte de Valmont (John Malkovich) to plot a series of seductions for their own amusement.

Among their victims are a 15-year-old virgin and a deeply religious wife with impeccable morals. The thrill, Valmont explains, "is the excitement of watching her betray everything

that's most important to her." Glenn thought long and hard before accepting the offer to play the Marquise, debating whether portraying two villainesses back to back would be wise.

She remembers only too well the effect Alex Forrest, with her hair a mass of blonde ringlets, had on people within a week of *Fatal Attraction* being released.

Despised

She became one of the most despised characters of modern times.

"It was disturbing to know I was upsetting so many people," Glenn says. "I immediately went and cut all my hair off."

But she eventually agreed because she felt that the two women were really quite different.

"Alex was completely out of control. The Marquise is all icy will. I loved playing her. It was an era of effeminate men and strong women."

Glenn, 41, began filming seven weeks after the birth of daughter Annie.

The first days of trying to squeeze herself into the tightly-laced bustiers of the era were something of an ordeal. "I had a figure like a potato," she confesses sheepishly.

Annie, whose father is film producer John Sturges, accompanied Glenn throughout the location filming in France.

The sight of little Annie in her pram brought a sense of reality to the period set with its extras dressed in pompadours and powdered wigs.

But Glenn's next role will bring her screaming back to the 20th century. In *The White Crow*, which begins filming in April, she plays a writer who goes to Jerusalem to interview Nazi war criminal Adolf Eichmann.

It might even give Glenn a break from that postbag of hate mail.

Caine plays a conman

THE hair is slicked back, the moustache has been neatly trimmed and the wads of notes are being waved with a flourish.

Not a lot of people know this, but Michael Caine is excelling himself at the moment as a conman.

Caine has a starring role in the new film *Dirty Rotten Scoundrels* a title which gets straight to the point.

He plays a stylish operator in the South of France who masquerades as a deposed prince raising funds to free people of his stricken homeland. Only the money stays in his pocket.

That kind of fund raising attracts the admiration of another conman, played by Steve Martin.

At Beaumont-sur-Mer, where wealthy tourists crowd the casino, there isn't room for two conmen. So the pair decide on a wager to see who's best and can stay.

Caine was fresh from filming *Without a Clue* in the stormy Lake District and Jack the Ripper in the depths of a London winter.

He says: "I love the script, and I loved the idea of working with Steve. I figured this was my

Michael Caine in his new film *Dirty Rotten Scoundrels*.

reward for freezing through my last two pictures."

Is nepotism Hollywood's latest attraction?

By Alan Stanbrook

MORE movies, it seems, than ever before now star actors and actresses who are themselves the sons and daughters of famous stars of the past.

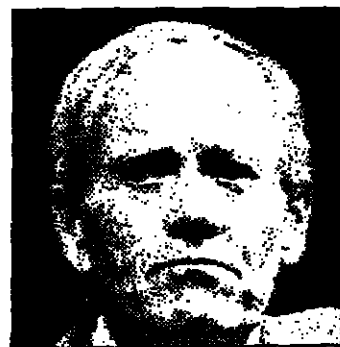
The only substantial female part in *A Fish Called Wanda*, for example, is played by Jamie Lee Curtis, the product of the one-time marriage between Tony Curtis and Janet Leigh.

In *Tucker*, Jeff Bridges struts his way through the role of a maverick car manufacturer with the same swagger that his father, Lloyd, once brought to similar parts in the 1950s.

Michael Douglas' perfor-

like her mother that you would swear Judy Garland was still with us. Yet all she has taken from Judy is an ability to belt out a ballad. The undertow of heartache and hysteria that makes Garland so electrifying in *A Star Is Born* even today is quite absent from Liza Minnelli's most famous role — Sally Bowles in *Cabaret*. Hers is an energetic performance, but brittle, vulgar and superficial.

Ditto for Isabella Rossellini, whose claim to our attention so



Three generations of Fondas: (left to right) Henry, Jane and Peter, and Henry's granddaughter Bridget Fonda.



Judy Garland and daughter Liza Minnelli.



Klaus Kinski and his daughter Nastassja.



Many second-generation movie stars are getting fat parts because of who they are rather than because of what they have to offer.

mance in *Wall Street* is a near clone of those his father, Kirk, used to give in pictures like *The Bad and the Beautiful* and *Ace in the Hole*. While the new western, *Young Guns*, positively bristles with family connections. It stars not only Martin Sheen's two boys, Charlie Sheen and Emilio Estevez, but Donald Sutherland's son Kiefer, too.

Famous

And why not, you may ask? The sons of the famous deserve a living as much as the next man. True, but there's a price to pay. Dynasties, like incest, can be bad for the stock. In time they weaken it and lead to lower standards. I think we're starting to see this in the cinema today.

Many second-generation movie stars are getting fat parts because of who they are rather than because of what they have to offer. Hollywood loves a sequel and that holds true for stars no less than for stories. So the more the offspring of earlier stars resemble their parents, the bigger parts they are likely to get. Liza Minnelli is a case in point. From some angles she looks so

far has been confined to her uncanny resemblance to her mother, Ingrid Bergman. But Ingrid was a powerful and moving actress even in her youth, as films like *Intermezzo* and *For Whom the Bell Tolls* amply demonstrate. It would be charitable to call Isabella Rossellini's work as an off-key chanteuse in *Blue Velvet* a performance at all.

Favouring the familiar takes all the originality out of acting and the sense of danger that comes with big, new, unpredictable talents — the gift that Richard Burton had when young, and Marlon Brando and the Robert De Niro of *Raging Bull*. These were actors who could set your hair on end. I get no such sensations from, say, Peter Fonda or Beau Bridges, brother of the better known Jeff.

Integrity

Jane Fonda perhaps epitomises the problem. With two Oscars to her name, she is taken for a very grand actress indeed. But her range is narrow. She's only really effective when waxing angry about a liberal

cause, on screen or off. Few now care to remember what a fist she made of comedy in those early pictures *Barbarella* and *Cat Ballou*.

That awesome stillness and integrity that Henry Fonda portrayed so effectively throughout his career — from *Young Mr Lincoln* through *The Grapes of Wrath* to *On Golden Pond* — is beyond her, too. He had presence, but it was a quality that rubbed off only imperfectly on his children.

Whether the next generation of Fondas can do better remains to be seen. We should know when Bridget Fonda, daughter of Peter, is seen as Mandy Rice-Davies in *Scandal*, the forthcoming film about the *Profumo* affair.



Martin Sheen and son Charlie Sheen.



The generation gap is still more pronounced in the Kinski clan. Klaus Kinski, especially in his work with Werner Herzog, is

pitiful. He's a walking nightmare, his face alone enough to make you scared to turn off the light.

His daughter, Nastassja, would certainly not want to be like him. The trouble is that she's not like anything very much. A pretty, pouting, rather continental-looking girl, she has been cast eccentrically as Thomas Hardy's Tess, as a daughter of the American Revolution and as a Texas whore in *Wim Wenders' Paris Texas*. Would she, one wonders, have landed any of these parts if her name had been plain Schmidt?

There's a close parallel to the Kinskis in Bruce and Laura Dern. As a psychotic, Bruce Dern is not in Klaus Kinski's league, but he, too, can make you

feel uneasy, afraid to look away lest the man might suddenly go ape. It's a trait he has exploited well in a wide range of films, from *Coming Home* to *The Great Gatsby* and *Silent Running*.

Bruce Dern's daughter Laura, though, is so bland she's Miss American Pie — the Chris Evert of the sorority set. She's the beautiful, blonde, blind girl who can't see how deformed Eric Stoltz is in *Mask* and the sentimental, small-town teenager who goes "goopy" over nature

Of three, Vanessa is the only one to match her father's achievements. In countless roles on stage and on screen in films like *The Bostonians* and *Julia* she has done work every bit as moving as Michael Redgrave's at its best — as in, say, *The Browning Version*.

Now a third generation of Redgraves is starting to emerge. Joely Richardson, who plays the youngest of the three murderers named Cissie Colpitts in *Drowning By Numbers*, is the daughter of Vanessa and director Tony Richardson. (Close your eyes and you'd think she was Vanessa — their infections are so eerily alike). Soon we'll see her

Too many cinematic scions are like retreads or thinner-blooded versions of their parents. Are they keeping out better talents?

and is sucked into a maelstrom of perversion in *Blue Velvet*. Director David Lynch used her to good effect there, enabling him to focus on the dark underside of Middle America. But it is essentially the same performance she gave in *Joyce Chopra's Smooth Talk* the year before.

Nor am I as impressed as some by Anjelica Huston — a third-generation actress this, since her father John sometimes deserted the director's chair for a cameo in front of the camera.

The real actor in the family, though, was grandfather Walter, whose sly old prospector in *The Treasure of the Sierra Madre* comes up like gold dust every time it is shown on television.

John Huston's direction helped his father to win an Oscar for that in 1948; as it did a generation later, for his daughter in *Prizzi's Honor*. But without her father, Anjelica Huston has failed signally to shine — witness *Gardens of Stone* and *A Handful of Dust*.

Even more like a dynasty than the Hustons is the Redgrave family, where Vanessa, Corin and Lynn followed father Michael onto stage and screen.

There's nothing nowadays like those Oscar contests of old when Bette Davis in *All About Eve* vied with Gloria Swanson in *Sunset Boulevard* and both were pipped to the post by Judy Holliday in *Born Yesterday*.

Or when Marlon Brando in *On the Waterfront* beat off fierce competition from James Mason in *A Star Is Born*, Humphrey Bogart in *The Caine Mutiny* and Bing Crosby in *The Country Girl*. We should have such riches again. But we won't get them while nepotism determines who wins the best parts.



Isabella Rossellini and her mother Ingrid Bergman.



Kirk Douglas and his son Michael.



Tony Curtis, his daughter Jamie Lee Curtis and her mother Janet Leigh.



Anjelica Huston and her father John.



BUSINESS & FINANCE

Solution possible to world debt crisis: IMF chief

OSLO, Jan 29. (Reuters) IMF Managing Director Michel Camdessus said yesterday he could see an end to the world debt crisis, but only if developing countries accepted discipline and the world's powerhouse economies took some responsibility.

"I would see some light at the end of the tunnel ... but co-responsibility is a central element," he told a news conference at the end of a visit to Oslo.

Finance ministers and central bankers from the world's seven leading non-communist industrial nations are expected to discuss the developing world's \$1.3 trillion debt burden, among other topics, when they meet in Washington next week.

"Forget about solving the debt problem, about an improvement in the human condition, if you do not have sustained growth in the industrial countries ... or if the developing world is not equipped to deal with (repayments)," Camdessus said.

The dismantling of barriers to free trade and continued financial help from Western banks were also key elements.

The International Monetary Fund, together with the World Bank, have sought to help manage the debt crisis that has sent a series of shocks through the industrialised economies since Mexico's near financial collapse six years ago.

"I think if we have good programmes for growth and all the players play a full role that, in a medium-term perspective, the developing countries will grow out of their debt," he said.

Camdessus was as critical of developing countries as he was of industrial nations.

"There is no short-cut to self-discipline," he said in a reference to developing countries with huge public sector spending or trade imbalances.

If they don't take strong measures to fight, for example the flight of capital, how can we convince the (industrial countries) banks to continue financing?" he asked.

He also appealed to commercial banks to continue helping developing countries.

"They (the banks) would prefer not to, because they have been kept in the debt situation," Camdessus said. "But they have contributed to the problems with their loans, they must contribute to the solutions."

Swiss lift banking secrecy in probe with French and US links

BERN, Switzerland, Jan 29. (AP) Swiss authorities ordered yesterday that bank records linked to the unfolding insider trading scandal in France be turned over to US investigators who uncovered the affair.

The US Securities and Exchange Commission last Tuesday had asked the Swiss Federal Office of Police Affairs to help in the so-called Pechiney-Triangle probe by ordering a suspension of strict banking secrecy rules.

Approval of the US request also means that any assets frozen in Swiss accounts could be turned over to the United States once the investigators submit more detailed allegations on the size and location of funds.

Documents
Swiss Justice Ministry sources said the order applies to documents on blocked accounts at five Swiss banks and two financial services companies. The accounts were frozen after a preliminary US intervention with Bern last month.

All parties concerned have 10 days to appeal the order.

Yesterday's action was the first on a judicial help request concerning insider trading since strengthened Swiss legislation took effect last July 1. Part of its aim was to avoid past tension with US authorities in international probes.

Allegations
Under a Swiss-US treaty, judicial assistance can only be granted when alleged offenses are criminal in both countries.

Yesterday's Justice Ministry statement noted that France to date has not asked for Swiss judicial aid.

The affair involves allegations that people with confidential prior knowledge made huge illegal stock market profits when the French state-owned aluminium company Pechiney bought out US-based Triangle Industries last November.

Occupancy rate drops

Hopes of upsurge in Kuwait's hotel business dashed

By Jadranka Porter

HOPES of an immediate upsurge in Kuwait's hotel business raised after a ceasefire in the Iraq-Iran war last August, were dashed when January occupancy figures revealed a drop of more than three per cent on the figure in the same period last year.

Kuwait's six five-star hotels had an occupancy rate of 36.5 per cent in the first 24 days of this year compared to 40 per cent in the same period last year. The average occupancy rate for 1988 for the same hotels was 42 per cent. The six hotels are the Sheraton, Kuwait International, Meridien, Regency Palace, SAS and Holiday Inn.

Income
The hotels are struggling to break even by supplementing income from staying guests with food and beverage sales. An occupancy rate of at least 55 per cent is required for a hotel to break even on income from room occupancy alone.

Two older hotels, Kuwait International — the former Kuwait Hilton Hotel and the Sheraton, are in a somewhat better financial position as their capital expenses are lower than those experienced by hotels which opened when the business

boom in Kuwait began dying out.

Hoteliers who last summer painted a sanguine picture of the future business prospects are now revising their budget figures to suit more moderate expectations.

Hopes
They admit to have risen to the bait when the ceasefire was declared raising hopes that droves of businessmen will converge on Kuwait to explore business opportunities related to reconstruction projects in the neighbouring Iraq and Iran. "But they never came" said one hotelier. "We have not witnessed an improvement in the business we had expected."

They have now joined the chorus of bankers, merchants and diplomats who say there will be no substantial improvement in the hotel business climate before a peace agreement between Iraq and Iran is ratified. The more optimistic hoteliers believe that business will pick up in the fall of this year.

A spokesman for the Kuwait Hotels Association is confident that hotel business will improve but warned against expectations of a sudden upturn in occupancy figures.

"January is usually not a good month. We won't have another

boom but things will improve slowly and surely" he said.

The hotels are presently locked in a competition for government business namely conferences, symposia, sports events and visiting delegations. Opinions are divided on whether the government financed construction projects will boost the hotel occupancy.

"Labour intensive projects such as roadworks and housing compounds usually produce few hotel occupants," said one hotelier.

But another hotel manager said he expected management teams on such projects to be accommodated in hotels.

Government-owned hotels such as the Kuwait International Hotel do not expect to get government business automatically.

Activity
"We have to fight for it. The government is price and quality conscious," said the spokesman for Kuwait International Hotel. The government tends to distribute its business equally among Kuwait's luxury hotels, he said.

One fact that hoteliers cannot change is the excessive hotel capacity in Kuwait — a legacy from the boom years in late 1970s and early 1980s when the business flourished.

At the time new hotels opened in early 1980s the business activity in Kuwait became sluggish due to the Iraq-Iran war, Souk Al Manakh stock market crash and declining oil prices. The occupancy rates plummeted and the hotel business never fully recovered. One hotel manager likened the situation to an Olympic village after the games.

The overabundance of hotel rooms gave rise to a cut-throat competition and severe price undercutting. The Kuwait Hotels Association has since fixed the hotel rates and is making sure the hotels adhere to the rate agreement.

Kuwait's hotel business is further squeezed by restrictions on entertainment. Hotel managers complain that Kuwaitis and expatriates are quick to leave the country for weekends and holidays looking for excitement in Bahrain and Dubai.

They also bemoan laborious registration procedures for hotel bands and entertainers.

But some hoteliers said that restrictions on entertainment are not a serious handicap.

"People who have lived in Kuwait for any length of time have realised that there is a limit to what you can do in Kuwait. But they still want to go and spend money. They know you

cannot do any better in Kuwait" said one hotel manager.

The spokesman for the Kuwait Hotels Association said people will travel irrespective of what the entertainment scene in Kuwait is like.

He said the government allows educational type of entertainment. Most hotels stage concerts and ethnic festivals.

Festival
The Kuwait International Hotel which is seeking to retain the clientele the Hilton used to have is planning a Turkish, Tunisian and Austrian festivals as well as the British week.

"We have not changed the product although the name is different" said the spokesman. "We were apprehensive at the beginning but majority of the people support us. If we can retain the same volume of business the Hilton used to have, we shall be satisfied" he added.

The 400-room Kuwait International Hotel which on an average has 165 rooms occupied is also looking for some airline business. The airline business has been a steady source of income for some other hotels such as the Sheraton which sells 75 rooms a day to the airlines.

The Meridien has 40 and the SAS 35 rooms occupied daily by the airline staff.

Non-OPEC producers urged to co-operate

Output cutback will be bonus for OPEC

ABU DHABI, Jan 29. (Reuters) Gulf oil states would see as a bonus an agreement by non-OPEC producers to cut output on top of last November's OPEC pact to lower production by 20 per cent, Gulf oil industry sources said.

"Their main concern is the success of the OPEC pact, but if non-OPEC comes along with output cuts it will be a bonus," one oil industry analyst said.

Stabilising
In the long-term, however, Gulf members of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) want the co-operation of non-OPEC producers in stabilising world prices after seeing independent output steadily eat into OPEC's market share over the past decade.

The 13-member OPEC agreed last November to cut output in

the first half of 1989 to 18.5 million barrels per day (BPD) from around 22.5 million BPD in December. The group also called on non-OPEC producers to co-operate in pushing prices higher. OPEC cuts have helped push prices up by almost \$5 a barrel since November to around \$16 a barrel for the most widely traded North Sea Brent.

Experts from seven independent producers agreed after a meeting with six OPEC members in London last week to recommend "necessary co-operative measures" to their governments.

The Thursday meeting included OPEC members Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Algeria, Venezuela, Nigeria and Indonesia and non-OPEC Oman, Angola, Egypt, Malaysia, China, Mexico and Colombia.

OPEC Secretary-General Subroto said the meeting also

agreed on an action programme and a ministerial gathering was planned.

Britain, a major Western producer, refused to attend despite the venue of the meeting, but observers were there from the Soviet Union, Norway, the US states of Texas and Alaska and the Canadian province of Alberta.

Reserves
But the lack of a concrete plan by non-OPEC states to cut back production in support of OPEC disappointed world markets and pushed oil prices down by about 35 cents a barrel yesterday to \$16.30 for North Sea Brent.

"The market expected little and it got virtually nothing," Geoff Pyne, analyst at the securities house Phillips and Drew in London, said yesterday.

Oil industry sources said Gulf OPEC members, with reserves to

carry output well into the next century, had a common cause with non-OPEC producers to boost prices in the short-term.

The Gulf states have been hit by big budget deficits as a result of the collapse of oil prices, while Iran and Iraq are also depending on oil for post-war reconstruction.

"Saudi Arabia has repeatedly said OPEC has sacrificed enough and non-OPEC states should also show some restraint in production to reach OPEC's target price of \$18 a barrel," one industry source said.

Farm exports hit by frost

AMMAN, Jan 29. (Reuters) Jordan's farm exports to Europe are at a near standstill after frost caused losses of 800,000 dinars (\$1.6 million), officials said today.

Ghazi Abu Hassan, director-general of the state-owned Agricultural Marketing and Processing Company (AMPCO), told Reuters vegetable exports to nine European countries were running at only two tonnes a day, instead of the planned 44.

He said volume, reduced by frost which hit the Jordan valley early this month, might rise next month if the weather improved and local demand could be satisfied.

Anti-protectionist pledge by Europe seen as unconvincing

DAVOS, Switzerland, Jan 29. (Reuters) The European Economic Community has given assurances there will be no protectionist "fortress Europe" after internal trade barriers disappear in 1992 but many non-Europeans seem unconvinced.

Senior EEC politicians at the annual World Economic Forum have stressed that the new market of 320 million people will be fully open to imports from Japan, the United States and elsewhere.

But Eishiro Saito, chairman of Japan's Feidanren (Federation of Economic Organisations), said Japanese businessmen were concerned that protectionist tendencies in Europe would intensify after 1992.

He said Japanese industry had invested heavily in Europe, pouring \$6.5 billion into the region in 1987, a 90 per cent increase over 1986.

Emphasis
But there had been an increasing emphasis by EEC countries on the need for higher local content in products made by Japanese firms in Europe, he told a symposium yesterday.

"I am afraid this casts a dark shadow on future prospects we have in this area," he said.

"Europe is very unlikely to avoid a fortress Europe result," said Lester Thurow, professor at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and among the 1,000 senior political and business leaders attending the forum.

He said the 12-nation community already had an integrated market for agriculture and this had resulted in barriers to food imports from outside.

Considering
"When I travel around Europe, I hear people say, 'we are not going to allow the Japanese to do to Europe what they have done to the United States'," he added.

Austrian Chancellor Franz Vranitzky said his country was actively considering whether to apply for EEC membership in case its interests were harmed by staying out.

"More than two-thirds of our trade is with the 12. Faced with 1992 and its consequences, we are obliged to react and analyse the situation," he added.

EEC Commission president Jacques Delors dismissed fears that the EEC would be protectionist and said it was the community's duty and in its interest to operate an open market.

He said the EEC already had

multilateral and bilateral relationships with member countries of the European Free Trade Association (EFTA), as well as co-operation accords with Yugoslavia, Turkey, Cyprus and Malta.

Strengthen
He said the EEC wanted to strengthen ties with East bloc countries and had not forgotten its duties towards countries bordering the Mediterranean.

Belgian Prime Minister Wilfried Martens rejected talk of a "fortress Europe" as nonsense. At every stage of its development, the EEC had proved more open to the world than some of its individual members, and its share of world trade was higher than that of either the United States or Japan.

"All indications are that the creation of the internal market will benefit third countries. Many large US and Japanese firms have well understood what is going on and have prepared themselves for the many opportunities on offer," he said.

He said protectionist voices could be heard sometimes in Europe, but they were less numerous and noisy than in the US or Japan. "It is the opposite of a 'fortress Europe'. It's a project to demolish trade barriers," he said.

Swiss arms exports drop
BERNE, Jan 29. (Reuters) Swiss arms exports fell 13 per cent in 1988 to 504.4 million francs (\$320.9 million) from 578.3 million francs (\$367.9 million) in 1987, the Federal Military Department said.

Nigeria was Switzerland's top customer, buying 105.8 million francs (\$67.3 million) worth, followed by West Germany with 79.7 million francs (\$50.7 million) and Saudi Arabia with 59.1 million francs (\$37.6 million).

Austria bought 31.4 million francs of arms (\$19.3 million), Canada and the United States 27 million francs (\$17.2 million) each and Thailand 20.1 million francs (\$12.8 million).

A 1972 Swiss law forbids the export of arms to countries engaged in armed conflict or where there are dangerous tensions.

World Business Summary

Soviet oil team to visit Oklahoma to study gas drilling operations

TULSA, Oklahoma, Jan 29. (AP) A delegation of Soviet oil officials will visit this southwestern US state next month to observe Parker Drilling Co.'s deep gas drilling operations, company president Robert Parker Jr. said. A return visit to Moscow is planned by top Parker officials during the spring, company spokesman Tim Colwell said yesterday. The Soviets, who make their own drilling rigs, are interested in obtaining mobile equipment such as Parker's line of helicopter-transportable rigs, Parker said. Company officials are hopeful they can sell US technology to the Soviets, but Parker said it is too early to tell if any deals will be made. "It could be five years," he said. "It could be never." Parker officials have visited Moscow twice in the past year to talk with the Soviet officials about drilling ventures, he said. "We're talking (to the Soviets), and we're talking to the right people at the right level," Parker said. The Soviet Ministry of Oil delegation will be led by Deputy Minister B.A. Nikitin and will include five other officials, Colwell said. Plans call for the visit in early February, but details have not been completed, the spokesman said. During meetings in Moscow, the Soviets expressed an interest in renting or buying drilling rigs made by Parker Technology Inc., the firm's manufacturing subsidiary in Odessa, Texas, Parker said. Parker has about 80 per cent of the highly mobile, helicopter-borne drilling rigs in the world, company officials said. Those rigs are used in inaccessible locations such as marshes, jungles and Arctic tundra. Parker vice-president Jim Linn said the Soviets want to increase production as their proven oil and gas reserves dwindle. "They are behind in bringing production on line as quickly as possible," Linn said. "They need help in upgrading their transportation and drilling speeds."

UK-BASED INVESTMENTS FROM KUWAIT

UK Expatriate Consultancy Services (Cyprus) Ltd are pleased to announce the expansion of their personal investment services into Kuwait. Managing Director, Roy Baldwin, and his team of consultants will arrive on Sunday, 5th February, for 1 month's stay. They will be holding investment seminars at their hotel during their stay. For your personal invitation, please telephone, fax or telex their office in the UK, or their hotel after 5th February. UK Office: Telephone 0252 343131, Fax 0252 333600, Telex 858893 FLETEL G. or Kuwait Meridien Hotel: Telephone 245550, Telex 44455.



CENTRAL BANK OF KUWAIT

ANNOUNCEMENT

For Subscription in Issue No. (38) for Treasury Bills
Authorised by Decree Law No. (50) of 1987

CENTRAL BANK OF KUWAIT, on behalf of the Ministry of Finance of the State of Kuwait, hereby announces the offering of TREASURY BEARER BILLS in Kuwaiti Dinar for SUBSCRIPTION in compliance with the following Rules and Regulations:

1. AMOUNT OF ISSUE:

The Amount of this Issue is KD 80 million distributed over THREE Denominations as follows:
KD 50 000, KD 250 000, KD 500 000

2. ISSUE DATE : Saturday 4 / 2 / 1989

3. DUE DATE : Wednesday 3 / 5 / 1989

4. OFFERING PERIOD:

From : Monday 30 / 1 / 1989

To : Thursday 2 / 2 / 1989

5. ALLOTMENT: Saturday 4 / 2 / 1989

6. DELIVERY OF BILLS:

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7. The Provisions of this Issue shall be subject to the Rules and Conditions stipulated in the Announcement for Subscription in Issue No. (1) for Treasury Bills, published in the Local Newspapers of Saturday, November 21, 1987 and in the Official Gazette (Kuwait Al-Yaum) No.1746 issued Sunday, November 22, 1987.



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Kartasasmita praises outcome of the recent London meeting

Non-OPEC 'must cut output'

JAKARTA, Jan 29. (Reuters): Indonesia's Oil Minister Ginanjar Kartasasmita said non-OPEC oil producers must cut output in the second quarter of 1989 if the oil price is to be kept stable.

In an interview with Reuters today, he applauded the outcome of the recent London meeting of OPEC and non-OPEC producers.

"They (non-OPEC) should cut output in the second quarter of this year to help OPEC stabilize the oil price," Ginanjar said.

"Because the second quarter is very important, when world oil consumption usually weakens, it is then that non-OPEC must cut its output," he said.

"How big their cut is and how they go about it, they have to decide," he said.

Results

In a statement following the London meetings last week, OPEC and non-OPEC producers said they "agreed on the need to take further steps to strengthen the oil market, especially in the second quarter of 1989."

"I saw that meeting has produced good results, more than I expected," Ginanjar said. He favoured a planned meeting of OPEC and non-OPEC oil ministers, but insisted it have a set agenda.

"We will listen to non-OPEC countries' suggestions for concrete steps to strengthen the oil price," he said.

"What we can do for long-term co-operation, so that co-operation is not just one-off but continuous, is to find a mechanism to consolidate the co-operation," Ginanjar said.

Slipped

OPEC experts at the London talks came from Indonesia, Algeria, Kuwait, Nigeria, Saudi Arabia and Venezuela.

Non-OPEC members represented were Angola, China, Colombia, Egypt, Malaysia, Mexico and Oman, which together pump some eight million barrels daily. The current OPEC output ceiling is 18.5 million.

Meanwhile, oil prices slipped on Friday on traders' disap-

pointment that London talks this week between officials of OPEC and producers from outside the group failed to do anything of substance to bring in new curbs on output.

The talks yielded a pledge that ministers of the OPEC and the non-OPEC sellers would hold a meeting but no date was set.

"The market expected little and it got virtually nothing... there should have been more specifics. The vague communiqué issued after the meeting is not good enough at this stage," said Geoff Pyne, oil analyst at London brokers Phillips and Drew.

Plans

Spot crude oil prices dipped. North Sea Brent blend, the most widely-traded oil, was quoted around \$16.35 a barrel for March loading, some 35 cents below Thursday night.

Brent was above \$17 a week ago.

Fergus MacLeod at brokers Barclays de Zoete Wedd said the chance to announce definite plans for a further meeting was

missed, adding: "I was slightly surprised they didn't announce something."

Non-OPEC countries Angola, China, Colombia, Egypt, Malaysia, Mexico and Oman also gave no sign that they would curb output as OPEC has done since Jan 1.

OPEC's Secretary-General, Subroto of Indonesia, told reporters: "There is an action programme. There are options that ministers will take decisions on. The options are not to be revealed. They are to be reported to the ministers."

Asked if these included supply cuts, Herman Franssen, an adviser to Oman, said: "Obviously, if you look at the market, that obviously includes such possibilities."

Industry analysts said they recognised that co-operation would take time. "There is an enormous amount of ground work to be done," said Barclays de Zoete Wedd's MacLeod.

And OPEC officials had said before the London talks that the goal was simply to reach a common view of the market.

Monitoring futures markets no easy task

CHICAGO, Jan 29. (Reuters): Putting FBI moles into Chicago's huge and chaotic commodity futures trading pits is probably the only way to uncover the kind of cheating that a current US government probe is alleged to have found.

No evidence of wrongdoing has yet been produced in an inquiry which the Federal Bureau of Investigation refuses to acknowledge exists but which industry sources say was begun two years ago by FBI agents posing as traders.

Monitored

"If in fact people want to cheat on the floor, they can probably do so and maintain records to make it very difficult to identify," a commodity lawyer said. "You need to have somebody in there to tell you exactly what happened."

The frenzied trading pits at the Board of Trade and Mercantile Exchanges where traders wave their arms, push, shove and shout orders, are monitored by

their own inspectors and the government's Commodity Futures Trading Commission (CFTC).

But the few inspectors are easily recognisable in their sober business suits. Traders and even the regulators agree they are unlikely to spot wrongdoing.

An example of a trading violation with clear criminal intent that is frequently cited by traders is called "bagging" or "laying off" trades to a confederate in the pit.

In most illegal trading schemes, an outside customer's order is used to generate profits. The colluding traders might signal each other with a wink or a nod and then skim a few ticks, or minimum price movements, from the customer and split the gain.

Transacted

Such a scheme might work like this, floor sources said:

A customer wants to buy 100,000 bushels of soybeans for delivery in July at a price of \$8 a

bushel. Trades are being transacted at around \$8 before a bout of selling drives the price below that level.

But instead of transacting the customer's order at the lower price, the broker tells his partner to buy, and in turn buys those contracts back from the trader at \$8, locking in a profit for his partner while fulfilling his obligation to the customer to obtain the \$8 price.

Illegal

Even if only one cent is made on the deal, the split \$1,000. Another illegal trading practice - called "front-running" - that can cost a customer money involves a broker buying or selling for himself or telling a partner to perform trades prior to a large customer order that they know will drive prices up or down and provide a gain for their own trades.

"Curb trading" or trading surreptitiously prior to or after the official session, is also illegal,

but widely practised.

The exchanges and federal regulators do bring civil charges against traders that occasionally result in expulsions from an exchange and large cash fines.

Last year the Chicago Board of Trade levied about \$375,000 in fines against traders for 92 instances of various illegal trading practices. Some traders were suspended. And two traders at the Mercantile Exchange, a husband and wife, were recently expelled and fined a record \$750,000.

Dishonest

Industry insiders say only a few dishonest traders probably engaged in these schemes. They say firms can usually put pressure on a broker who abuses customer orders by shifting business to another trader in the highly competitive pits.

Some traders believe the allegations raised in the FBI probe involve relatively harmless, infractions such as curb trading.

'GATT is dead' charge sets minds reeling over future of trade

DAVOS, Switzerland, Jan 29. (Reuters): "GATT is dead."

The distinguished audience at the World Economic Forum at this Swiss ski resort shivered when US economist Lester Thurow made this pronouncement.

Influence

It may not have had quite the resonance of 19th century German philosopher Friedrich Nietzsche's cry of "god is dead."

But it disturbed the 1,000 businessmen and politicians gathered here. The vision of free world trade embodied in the

General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade has become, for many, a religion.

Thurow, professor at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, may not share with his audience the direct power to influence the world economy.

But his words are closely watched in Washington. And, with the Bush administration still setting its course, his statement set many minds wondering what will come next.

Thurow argues that the world is moving inexorably towards breaking into three separate trading zones. The United States has already signed a free trade agreement with Canada. The European Economic Community is striving to become a single market after 1992. And Japan already dominates trade in the Pacific basin.

All the while, countries from around the world are negotiating in the four-year Uruguay round of GATT, which began in late 1986, for a widespread liberalisation of trade.

Competition

But Thurow said: "I think the best thing would be to abandon the Uruguay round. It's not getting anywhere and it is just going to make us angry with each other."

But now, the shopping list of industries for the 1990s was ex-

actly the same for each region, and in a trade battle not everyone would be able to win.

"Now we have head-on competition. It's no longer win-win. It's win-lose, or maybe lose-lose," he said.

He cited high-definition television as an example of the way the world is breaking up into blocs. The United States was likely to adopt a different technical standard to the Europeans, and Europeans would do anything but accept a standard set by the Japanese, he said.

The intractable US trade deficit and the equally difficult surpluses of Japan and West Germany loom ever larger.

Disputes

"Nineteen eighty-nine will be a year of incredibly sharp trade disputes," he predicted. "Governments have said 'be patient' about the trade imbalances. It is now clear we have not solved the problem."

The Soviet bloc, as perestroika proceeds, would have trouble fitting in, since the quality of the goods it could export would have trouble matching the demands of Western markets.

But Thurow saw a good future for the Chinese. "China will do better. It can already produce textiles and footwear more cheaply to Western standards of quality," he said.

NBK profits jump, says Khorafi

KUWAIT, Jan 29. (Reuters): The National Bank of Kuwait, the country's largest, today reported a 16 per cent jump in net profit in 1988, its biggest increase since 1985.

Bankers said the results reflected renewed strength in the local market as well as NBK's expansion outside the Gulf, where falling oil prices, the Iran-Iraq war and non-performing loans have hit back profits in recent years.

"At the end of the '80s, we are reaping the rewards of the careful strategic planning which we initiated at the start of the decade," chairman Mohammed Abdul Mohsin Al Khorafi told reporters.

Net profits climbed to KD30.9 million from KD26.7 million while assets rose 15 per cent to KD3.48 billion.

The bank said that in keeping with tradition, additional undisclosed profits were transferred to an inner reserve.

Khorafi announced a cash dividend of 22 fils per share unchanged from 1987, and a bonus issue of 13 shares for every 100 held, up from 10 in 1987.

Bankers say NBK's conservative domestic lending policy and foreign assets helped shield it from the Gulf recession. Profits have grown during each of the past five years.

Unlike other Kuwaiti banks that required Central Bank assistance, NBK has been able to cover fully non-performing loans from its own resources, bankers said.

NBK has 50 domestic branches and full branches in New York, Singapore, London, Paris and Bahrain, and wholly owned investment management subsidiaries in London and Geneva.

IBS plans graduation ceremony

UNDER the auspices of Sheikh Salem Abdul Aziz Al Sabah, Governor of the Central Bank of Kuwait, chairman of the Institute of Banking Studies, IBS will have a graduation ceremony for its advanced diploma students totalling 332 graduates at Kuwait Regency Palace Hotel at 6pm today. Those who passed the test of English as a Banking Language (TOEFL) will be honoured and awarded certificates.

Meanwhile, IBS, Director, Dr Abdullah Mohana Salim Ghanem has invited high ranking officials in Kuwaiti banks and financial institutions to attend the function.

KUWAIT						
BANK SECTOR	P.CLS	LT	HIGH	LOW	VOL	TRADE
-NATIONAL BANK	1.090	1.080	1.080	1.080	395000	
-GULF BANK	0.380	0.375	0.375	0.375	100000	
-COMMERCIAL BK	0.280	0.280	0.280	0.280	310000	
-AHLI BANK	0.350	0.345	0.345	0.345	970000	
-B.K.M.E	0.390					
-K.R.E.B.	0.390					
-BURGAM BANK	0.270	0.265	0.265	0.265	10000	
-K.F.HOUSE	0.510	0.510	0.510	0.510	995000	
INVESTMENT SECTOR						
-KWT INV. CO.	0.102					
-K.F.T.C.I.C.	0.210					
-K.I.I.C.	0.140					
-COM.FACILITIES	0.480					
-ARLIAH INV.	0.000					
-I.F.A.	0.095					
-INV. PEARL KWT	0.096					
INSURANCE SECTOR						
-KWT INSURANCE	0.720					
-GULF INSURANCE	0.360					
-AHLIA INS. CO.	0.580					
-WARBA INS. CO.	0.400					
REAL EST SECTOR						
-KWT R.EST. CO.	0.176	0.176	0.176	0.176	20000	
-UNI R.EST. CO.	0.073					
-WAT R.EST. CO.	0.192					
-SALIAH R.E.	0.080					
-KWT R.E.I.COM	0.000					
INDUSTRY SECTOR						
-WAT IND. CO.	0.570					
-KWT M.P. IND.	0.320					
-KWT CEMENT CO.	0.180					
-REF. IND. CO.	0.405					
-N.A.M.T.CO.	0.000					
-GULF CABLE	1.110					
-K.PH.IND. CO.	0.190					
-CONT.MARINE	0.280					
-K.SH.REP.CO	0.045					
SERVICES SECTOR						
-OVERLAND TRANS	0.082					
-K.N.C. CO.	0.180					
-KWT HOTELS CO.	0.170					
-P.WAREHOUSING	0.130					
-COM.MKT.CHPK.	0.017	0.017	0.017	0.017	80000	
-MOBILE TELE.	0.300	0.300	0.300	0.300	40000	
-KWT COMPUTER	0.156					
FOOD SECTOR						
-LIVESTOCK T.T.	0.238					
-UNTD FISHERIES	0.140					
-UNTD POULTRY	0.228					
-KWT FOODS	0.295					
-AGRI.FOOD PRD.	0.150					
NON-KWT SECTOR						
-BINH.INTER.BK	0.070	0.071	0.071	0.071	1320000	
-BINH.M.EAST.BK	0.053	0.053	0.053	0.053	80000	
-UNTD.GULF BK	0.000					
-COAST INVEST.	0.094	0.093	0.093	0.093	400000	
-A.G.INV.CORP.	0.035					
-FIRST.GULF BK	0.620					
-GULF MEDICAL.	0.034					
KUWAIT STOCK EXCHANGE						
COMPANIES LISTED ON THE PARALLEL MARKET						
FINANCIAL SECTOR	P.CLS	LT	HIGH	LOW	VOL	TRADE
-GULF INTL INS	0.000					
-ARAB INT CO.	0.000					
-SHARJAH INS	0.000					
-GULF UNION INS	0.000					
-R.K.WHITE CMNT	0.000					
-AJMAN CEMENT.	0.000					
INDUSTRIAL SECTOR						
B-FUJAIRAH CEMT	0.000					
C-SHARJAH CEMENT	0.010					
D-GULF CEMENT	0.010					

AMMAN									
	OPNG	CLSG							
ALA-ADDIN COMPANY	1.92	2.02	JOR LEASING CORP.	0.79	0.83				
ARAB ALUMINUM IND.	2.19	2.22	JOR LIN BRICK	0.25	0.25				
ARAB BANK	144.0143.5	---	JOR MANAG/CONSULT	0.50	0.50				
ARAB CHEMICAL OTER	4.35	4.40	JOR NATIONAL BANK	2.66	2.66				
ARAB FINANCE CORP.	2.44	2.41	JOR PAPER CARDBRGG	3.50	3.63				
ARAB INSURANCE	1.05	1.04	JOR PHOSPHATE MINS	4.15	4.20				
ARAB INT. INV/TRAD.	0.66	0.65	JOR PIPES MANUFACT	1.77	1.84				
ARAB INT. UNION INS	1.21	1.25	JOR PRESS/PUBLISH.	1.90	1.90				
ARAB INTER. HOTELS	0.76	0.80	JOR PRINTING/PACK.	4.25	4.40				
ARAB JOR INVST/BK	2.50	2.45	JOR ROCK WOOL IND.	1.15	1.19				
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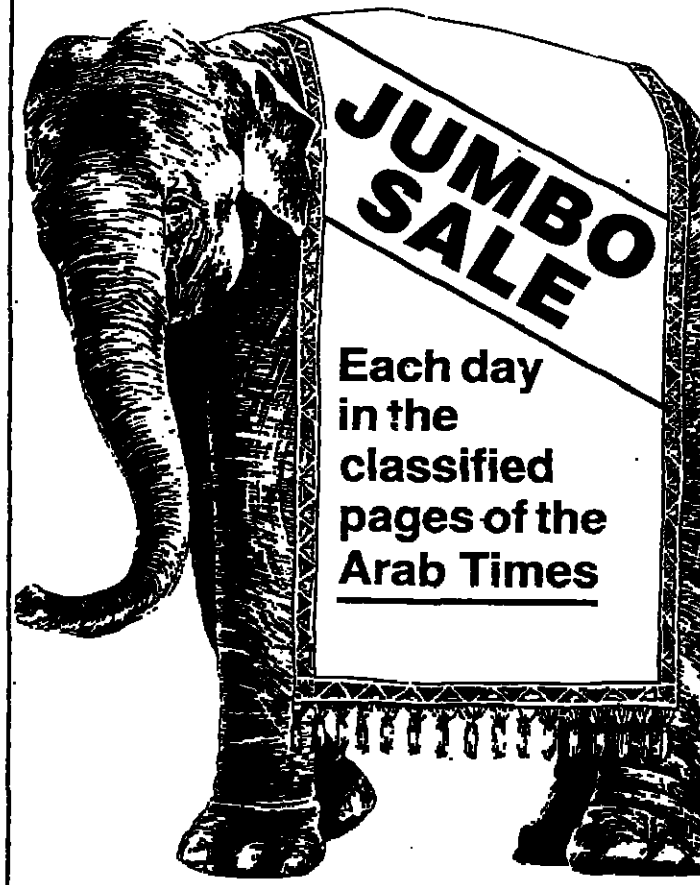
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SPORTS

Britain overwhelm W. Germany

GLASGOW, Scotland, Jan 29, (AP) British athletes captured 17 of the 21 individual events and both relays to overwhelm a young West German team yesterday in an indoor track meet.

The British men claimed 11 of their 12 events, losing only in the 800-metre run, while the women won six of nine events. The overall score was 159-86.

Colin Jackson, silver medalist in the 100-metre hurdles at the Seoul Olympics, led the British victory with a clocking of 7.54 seconds to win the 60-metre hurdles.

Michael Rosswess, a virtual unknown at the start of last season who finished seventh in the Olympic 200, won the 60-metre sprint in 6.73 seconds despite stumbling at the start. Earlier this month, Rosswess posted a time of 6.60 in the 60, the fastest time ever recorded in Britain.

Strained
A duel between Rosswess and Linford Christie, silver medalist in the 100 metres at Seoul, failed to materialise because Christie pulled out with a strained hamstring.

High jumper Dalton Grant, using borrowed shoes because his regular pair was lost in a luggage mixup, set a British indoor record with a leap of 2.31 metres. The jump equalled Grant's British outdoor record and was enough to give him the victory over compatriot John Holman, who jumped 2.28.

Eckhart Ruter was the only male West German winner, capturing the 800 in one minute, 49.47 seconds. The visitors scored triumphs in three women's events, the 200, 800 and high jump.

Britain's Steve Tunstall, who has won several cross country races this winter following his release from the French Foreign Legion, finished third in his 3,000-metre debut on an indoor track. Compatriot Colin Walker clocked 7:57.83 and Frank Bialluch of West Germany finished in 7:58.87 to defeat Tunstall, who tired over the last 200 metres and posted a time of 8:03.62.

Alysheba gets Horse of the Year award

ARCADIA, California, Jan 29, (AP) Alysheba, the horse that won \$3.8 million in 1988 to become the richest animal in thoroughbred racing history, has been voted Horse of the Year.

Alysheba received 179 points in voting by three racing organizations, compared with 40 points for the unbeaten filly personal ensign.

"I knew at the Breeders Cup he had to win to be Horse of the Year because of the great record of personal ensign," said Clarence Scharbauer, whose wife Dorothy and daughter Pamela are listed as the horse's owners. "This is a great honour."

The award was the result of voting by the National Turf Writers Association, daily racing form and racing secretaries of the US Thoroughbred Racing Associations' member tracks.

Alysheba's win at the Nov 5 Breeders' Cup Classic race at Churchill Downs in Kentucky boosted the horse's winnings by \$1.35 million and gave the horse a single-year earnings record of \$3,808,600. Those winnings made him the all-time money-winning leader with \$6,679,242.

He surpassed the gelding, John Henry, who retired in 1984 at age nine with earnings of \$6,597,947 in winnings.

Alysheba has retired to stud at Will Farish's Lane's End Farm in Versailles, Kentucky with a career record of 11 wins, eight seconds and two thirds in 26 starts. His first mare is scheduled to be all Rainbows, mother of Kentucky Derby winner Winning Colours.

NAVRA TILOVA AND SHRIVER CLINCH DOUBLES TITLE

Lendl crushes Mecir for crown



Lendl smiles as he holds the Australian Open trophy aloft. (Reuters wirephoto)

MELBOURNE, Australia, Jan 29, (AP) Ivan Lendl overpowered Miloslav Mecir of Czechoslovakia 6-2, 6-2 today to win his first Australian Open and regain the No. 1 ranking in men's tennis.

Lendl took only two hours to defeat Mecir for the second time in a Grand Slam final. He also defeated his countryman in straight sets at the 1986 US Open.

Mecir, ranked 13th in the world, broke to take a 2-1 lead in the first set, but that was his high point of the match. Lendl broke right back at love and never trailed again on another 100-degree Fahrenheit (37-degree Celsius) day at the National Tennis Centre.

Mecir, known as the "Big Cat" for his quickness and court coverage, was a step slower throughout the match. He tried to keep Lendl off balance by hitting short offspeed shots, but Lendl teed off on them like a home-run hitter taking batting practice.

Both players wore caps to shade themselves from the searing heat on centre court, where the temperature on the cushioned-hardcourt surface reached 135 degrees Fahrenheit (57 degrees Celsius).

With the victory, Lendl regained the No. 1 ranking he lost to Mats Wilander at the US Open last September. Lendl held the top spot for three years before that.

The Australian Open was one

of two major titles that had eluded Lendl. He has won three French Opens and three US Opens, but is still seeking his first Wimbledon championship.

"I don't think I have to tell you how badly I wanted to win this tournament," said Lendl, who was beaten by Wilander in the 1983 Australian Open. "It's one of the four greatest tournaments in the world and the last four or five years I've bent over backwards trying to win it."

"Winning the tournament means more to me than No. 1. I didn't come here to be No. 1. I came here to win."

Mecir, who is 1-5 against Lendl, praised the victor.

"I think he played very well, not only against me, but against all the other players here," Mecir said. "He deserved to win the tournament."

Both players remained on the baseline most of the match, but Lendl's groundstrokes were more reliable. Lendl also had the superior serve, blasting 14 aces while the ninth-seeded Mecir double-faulted 10 times.

Mecir's serve crumpled whenever Lendl put on pressure.

"I was surprised at how easy it was," Lendl said. "I haven't seen him serve that badly for a long, long time. When he started to serve those double faults, I couldn't believe my luck."

"It wasn't pretty the way I played against him, but that's what works. It's ugly, but that's the way to play him."

After winning the first set in 33

minutes, Lendl fought back from 0-40 to hold serve in the opening game of the second set and then raced to a 5-1 lead.

Mecir, bidding for his first Grand Slam title, broke back at love to make it 5-2 but couldn't hold his serve in the next game and lost the set.

Lendl immediately took control of the third set, taking a 3-0 lead. Mecir won the next two games but then Lendl shrugged off a time-violation warning for serving slowly and won the last three games for the title.

Lendl received \$140,000 for winning his seventh Grand Slam title while Mecir earned \$70,000.

Earlier, Martina Navratilova and Pam Shriver scored their seventh straight Australian Open doubles victory.

Recorded

Navratilova and Shriver, the top seeds, shrugged off a dropped first set to beat Jill Hetherington of Canada and American Patty Fendick 3-6, 6-3, 6-2 in the women's doubles final. The pair have now recorded 20 Grand Slam wins as a team.

For Navratilova, 32, it was her 51st Grand Slam title. She has won 29 in doubles.

Shriver said today's victory carried added significance for the duo.

"This one stands out a little more than some because we had to fight to win," Shriver said.

"We have won a lot of titles but doing so after having to fight for three sets makes it more satisfying."

Price fights back to grab share of lead



Former Secretary of State George Shultz hits out of a sand trap on the 18th hole in the Pebble Beach tournament. (Reuters wirephoto)

PEBBLE BEACH, California, Jan 29, (AP) Nick Price came from six strokes off the pace with a 67 and grabbed a share of the lead yesterday in the third round of the \$1 million Pebble Beach National Pro-am.

His 5-under-par at Pebble Beach completed a rotation over three Monterey Peninsula courses in 207, nine shots under par.

Price, runner-up to Seve Ballesteros in last year's British Open, was tied for the lead with Mark O'Meara, who had a 1-over-par 73 in the cold and windy conditions.

"I guess you could say it was an uneventful day," O'Meara said. "Two three-putts (for his two bogeys) and one one-putt (for his only birdie)."

Price, born in South Africa of British parents, grew up in Rhodesia. He carries a British passport and now resides in Orlando, Florida.

It was considerably more eventful for Jack Nicklaus, who shot a pair of 69s in the first two rounds. The 49-year-old Nicklaus, who won the 1972 US Open at Pebble Beach and went on to shoot an 80, including 42 on the back nine. He just made the cut.

shooting a 218.

Nicklaus' bad back was bothered by the cold. He appeared to be attempting to disguise a slight limp.

Tom Watson, who won the 1982 US Open at Pebble Beach, also had 42 over the back nine. He shot a 74 for a three-round total of 221 and failed to make the cut.

Dave Stockton, who trailed by a stroke after 36 holes, shot a 78 at Spyglass Hill and faded to 213, six strokes back.

Tom Kite and West German Bernhard Langer were tied for third at 209. Kite matched par 72 and Langer shot 71, both at Pebble Beach.

Supreme

Steve Pate closed up with a 66 at Pebble Beach and was tied at 210 with David Ogren, Ken Green and Mark Brooks. Ogren shot 72 and Brooks a 71 at Cypress Point and Green shot 71 at Pebble Beach.

Actor Jack Lemmon, who has said one of his supreme lifetime ambitions is to make the cut in this tournament, missed for the 25th consecutive time. He and Peter Jacobsen had a best-ball 213, far over the qualifying score.

Warriors overcome Pacers

Anderson helps 76ers outclass Nets

NEW YORK, Jan 29, (AP) Ron Anderson scored eight of 25 points during a 17-5 run at the start of the fourth quarter and the Philadelphia 76ers overcame the absence of Charles Barkley and defeated the New Jersey Nets 123-105 last night.

The victory was the third straight and eighth in 11 games for the 76ers, who learned earlier in the day they would be without their leading scorer and rebounder.

Barkley suffered a sprained right ankle on Friday night in the final two minutes of a 113-112 win over Golden State. The ankle was placed in a cast earlier in the day and Barkley might return on Tuesday.

But the 76ers stayed close throughout, never trailing by more than five points before the fourth quarter, when the Nets were 7-for-23 from the field.

Against the Nets, the 76ers needed neither Barkley nor guard Maurice Cheeks, who was sidelined earlier in the week.

Roy Hinson had 21 points and 11 rebounds to lead New Jersey. In other National Basketball Association games last night, Golden State edged Indiana 114-112; Houston defeated San Antonio 96-91; Utah routed New York 127-104; Denver beat Phoenix 142-138; Milwaukee slamed the Los Angeles Clippers 105-84; and Portland defeated Atlanta 110-94.

Warriors 114, Pacers 112
Manute Bol hit a 21-foot jumper with 35 seconds to go, breaking the game's 11th tie, and Chris Mullin scored 31 points as the Golden State Warriors beat the Indiana Pacers 114-112.

Rockets 96, Spurs 91
Eric "Sleepy" Floyd scored 22 points and Akeem Olajuwon had 20 points and 17 rebounds as the Midwest Division-leading Houston Rockets held off a late rally to beat the San Antonio Spurs 96-91.

Jazz 127, Knicks 104
Karl Malone scored 17 of his 41 points in the third quarter. Leading scorers were Malone, 22, and George Ginther, 22, in a 104-94 victory over the New York Knicks, who suffered their worst

loss of the season.

Nuggets 142, Suns 138
Fat Lever scored 32 points and Michael Adams added 28 as the Denver Nuggets held on for a 142-138 victory over Phoenix.

Bucks 105, Clippers 84
Jay Humphries scored a season-high 24 points and Terry Cummings added 21 points and 12 rebounds as the Milwaukee Bucks beat Los Angeles 105-84, the Clippers' 14th straight loss.

Trail Blazers 110, Hawks 94
Clyde Drexler had 31 points and 12 rebounds, while Kiki Vandeweghe and Kevin Duckworth scored important baskets in the fourth quarter.

Portland to a 110-94 victory over the Atlanta Hawks.

Moller wins Osaka marathon

OSAKA, Japan, Jan 29, (AP) Lorraine Moller of New Zealand, running alone for the last 14 kilometres (9 miles), won the Osaka international women's marathon today for the third time.

Moller covered the 42.195 kilometres (26.161 miles) in two hours, 30 minutes, 21 seconds, more than 250 metres ahead of Renata Kokowska of Poland, who finished in 2:31:19. Third was Gabriela Wolf of West Germany in 2:31:45, followed by Japan's Kazuo Kojima in 2:34:56.

Favourite Rosa Mota of Portugal, the 1988 Seoul Olympics gold medalist, retired after 27.2 kilometres (16.9 miles), apparently due to pain in her calf. Mota, bidding for her seventh consecutive marathon victory, stopped twice before withdrawing.

"I'm proud to be here again and (to have) won the race," Moller said afterward.

Moller, Mota, Italy's Laura Fogli and Kojima formed the lead group early in the race. After 13 kilometres (8 miles), they were joined by Wolf, Kokowska, and Raisa Smekhnova of the Soviet Union.

Mota stopped for the first time just after the 20-kilometre (12-mile) mark, but resumed running and caught up with the front-running Moller and Kojima. After another six kilometres (4 miles), she stopped again, and then withdrew.



Moller raises her arms in victory as she crosses the finish line. (Reuters wirephoto)

Louisiana struggle past Georgetown

NEW ORLEANS, Louisiana, Jan 29, (AP) Ricky Blanton scored at the buzzer yesterday, giving Louisiana State an 82-80 victory and keeping second-ranked Georgetown out of first place before the largest crowd ever to watch a regular-season university basketball game.

The pre-game ticket sale was 65,913, largest ever for any university game. The actual attendance was 54,321.

Georgetown had tied it at 80 on a free throw by Charles Smith with 20 seconds left. Smith missed his first attempt and made the second try.

Passed

But Louisiana State University brought it down against the Hoyas' press, and Chris Jackson passed off to Russell Grant, who missed at shot. The ball was loose under the basket and Blanton grabbed it and made a layup as time expired.

The victory, which came during the Mardi Gras in New Orleans, likely denied Georgetown University a chance to move into the No. 1 spot. Earlier this week, top-ranked Illinois lost, giving the Hoyas an opportunity to take over.

Smith led Georgetown scoring with 32 points. Jaren Jackson, a New Orleans native, had 28 before the hometown crowd.

Al Hajri confident of making winning start

AS the 1989 FISA Middle East Championship prepares to get under way in Qatar on Feb 9, Rothmans star Saeed Al Hajri is confident of making a winning start in his bid for a third regional title.

With 14 international victories to his credit, Al Hajri believes he has a car that is fast enough and reliable enough to help him grab an immediate advantage in the six-round series.

Disappear

Looking ahead to the two-day Nasir bin Khalid and Sons Qatar International Rally, in which he makes his debut in the new Group A Rothmans Ford Sierra RS Cosworth, the brilliant Qatar driver said: "I don't matter how well you drive, your chances of winning a rally can disappear in seconds if your car lets you down."

"That's why I have such a good feeling about the Ford Sierra. It has produced some

great results in international rallying, and its reliability is one of its biggest strengths."

Al Hajri, accompanied again by his British co-driver Steve Bond, is determined to reverse last year's result in Qatar where he lost on home territory for the first time after two cruel punctures on the last two stages let in Mohammed bin Sulayem.

Masterminding his challenge for the title again will be David Sutton, who managed the Rothmans Ford team in which Flying Finn Ari Vatanen claimed the 1981 World Rally Championship. "That was a marvellous year, and now we are expecting Saeed and the new Sierra to take us to another championship triumph," said Sutton.

With Group B cars no longer able to score points in the championship, Sulayem also sets off in Qatar in a Group A car — the Toyota GT-4 which former world champion Bjorn Wal-



Al Hajri

degard steered to victory in the European Championship Rothmans Cyprus Rally last September.

Sulayem, partnered again by Irish navigator Ronan Morgan, will lead Al Hajri away from the start on the Corniche at Doha at 1 pm on Feb 9. Among the men who are expected to be close behind in the starting line-up is

Qatar's Abbas Al Mosaawi, who was given a tremendous boost by his splendid second place in the Emirates Dubai International Rally two months ago.

Hoping to dent some big reputations by taking advantage of local knowledge will be a glut of other Qatari drivers like Mubarak Al Hajri, Saeed's brother who drives an Opel Manta 400; Hassan Ahmed in a Toyota Celica Supra GPA; and Joseph George in a Toyota GPS.

"We have heard of a number of other top drivers who will be taking part, although we haven't received their entries yet," said Clerk of the Course Graham Butterworth. "But that is not unusual at this stage."

The Qatari rally route has traditionally been one of the most rugged in the championship, with scores of tyres being shredded on jagged rocks along the desert trails around Doha. But this year it should be a dif-

ferent story.

"About 80 percent of the route is new this time, and it has all been graded so it will be much smoother than usual," said Butterworth. "We still have just as many twists and turns, but overall, I think it is a safer route."

"There are some very good stages for spectators though, particularly Mukayyanis on the second day which winds around the sponsor's farm. That should be well worth watching." The rally includes 33 special stages which account for around 400-km of the total length of 1,000-km. The first cars will reach the finish at Doha's Ramada Hotel around 8.30 pm on Feb 10.

1989 FISA Middle East Championship schedule: Feb 9-10 Qatar Rally; March 16-17 Kuwait Rally; May 17-19 Rothmans Jordan Rally; Oct 13-15 Rally de Montagne, Lebanon; Oct 25-27 Oman Rally; Nov 30-Dec 1 Dubai Rally.

Karpov and Hjartrason play to draw in 1st game

SEATTLE, Jan 29, (AP) Former world champion Anatoly Karpov of the Soviet Union and Iceland's Johann Hjartrason played to a draw after 15 moves yesterday in the first game of their World Chess Championship candidates quarterfinal.

The 25-year-old Hjartrason, playing white, offered the draw and Karpov, 37, accepted. The opening, described as the doubly delayed exchange variation of the Ruy Lopez, moved quickly and the game was over in one hour and 25 minutes. Chess analysts said the key was Hjartrason's 11th move, when he moved his knight to queen-bishop 4, positionally making continuation of the game questionable.

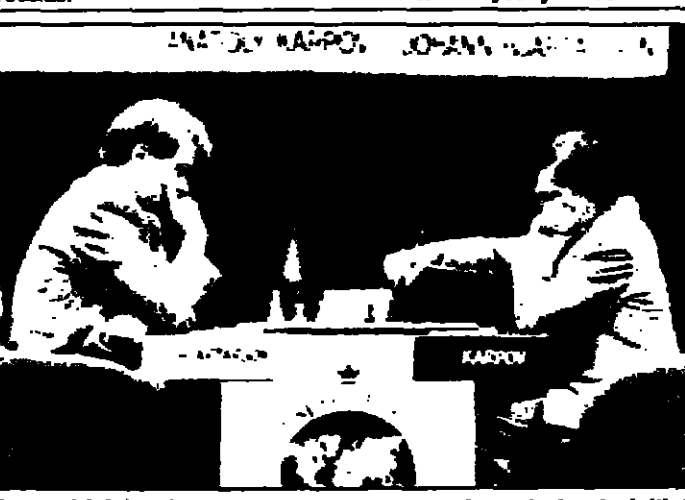
One analyst said Hjartrason played not so much to win, but to keep from losing to the 11-time

world champion. Karpov's acceptance of the draw, playing black, was an understandable decision, he said.

The difficulty Karpov faces, the analyst said, was that the match is only six games, and he must be cautious in settling for a draw because just one win by Hjartrason would put the Icelandic grandmaster in a strong position.

The match continues tomorrow.

The winner of the candidates series of matches will challenge world champion Garry Kasparov for his world title in 1990. Three quarterfinal matches currently are under way or are about to begin. The fourth was won by British grandmaster Jonathan Speelman, who advanced to the semifinals.



Karpov (right) makes a move as Hjartrason looks on during the initial stages of the game. (Reuters wirephoto)

SPORTS BRIEFS

King's Cup

BANGKOK, Thailand, Jan 29. (AP) The Soviet Union beat North Korea 2-0 today, during the second day of the 20th annual King's Cup amateur soccer tournament at Bangkok's National Stadium.

Biathlon event

RUHPOLDING, West Germany, Jan 29. (AP) East Germany used raw power to trim the Soviet Union in the 7.5-kilometre men's relay today in World Cup biathlon competition.

Cameron run

YAOUNDE, Cameroon, Jan 29. (AP) Jack Maitland of Britain won the 14th running of the Mount Cameroon race today, finishing ahead of last year's winner, Cameroonian Reginald Esuka.

Swann wins

YUZAWA, Japan, Jan 29. (AP) Graham Swann of Canada outskied Georg Ager of Austria today in the third-leg finals of the Japan Pro Circuit, a dual slalom ski event.

Holland triumphs

LAKE PLACID, N.Y., Jan 29. (AP) Olympian Mike Holland successfully defended his 90-metre title at the US Ski Jumping Championships that were shortened to a single round because of erratic winds yesterday.

World Cup

MIOLA DI PINE, Italy, Jan 29. (AP) Dan Jansen of the United States won the 500-metre World Cup speed skating race yesterday.

Italian soccer

ROME, Jan 29. (UPI) Results of the Italian First Division soccer matches played today:

Atalanta	1	Inter	1
Cesena	3	Lecco	2
Fiorantina	2	Roma	2
Lazio	0	Juventus	0
AC Milan	0	Pisa	0
Napoli	4	Ascoli	1
Pescara	3	Bologna	1
Torino	2	Catania	1
Verona	1	Sampdoria	1

British soccer

LONDON, Jan 29. (UPI) Results of the British soccer matches played today:

Millwall	0	Liverpool	2
Nottingham Forest	1	Wolves	1
Sheff Wed	1	Sheff Utd	0
Sheff Wed	2	Hamilton	0

Prince Faisal takes overall first prize

Organisers shine in Jordan race



Prince Abdullah talks to a team-mate.

By Gail Seery

ALTHOUGH Mishaal Al Jarallah was first home in the Jordan Powerboat Race on Friday, a technical infringement on his part, and on the part of Capri Sonne, the second boat to cross the line, meant that the overall prize went to Prince Faisal, who also won the inboard category. Jarallah was winner in the outboard category — under which boats from Dubai and Kuwait race.

The participation of Prince Abdullah and Prince Faisal was the highlight of the race for many — indeed, without their participation the sport would probably already be doomed in Jordan, as the three royal boats were the only meaningful Jordanian entries.

Decided Right from the conception of the race, King Hussein played an important part. The race was originally intended as a birthday tribute to the King, but he decided that he would like to race himself, and ordered three identical Aronow 39ft catamarans from the US. These boats sported awesome power outputs of around 1060 to 1150hp, but were considered too heavy to be able to outrun the racing catamarans, driven by the Kuwaiti and Dubai visitors.

With the palace's support,

BORDER AND TAYLOR PUT AUSTRALIA ON TOP

W. Indies face defeat after batting collapse



Steve Waugh (right) congratulates Merv Hughes after he caught and bowled Greenidge. (Reuters wirephoto)

SYDNEY, Jan 29. (Reuters) A defiant century by Desmond Haynes was not enough to save West Indies from facing almost certain defeat in the fourth Test against Australia at the Sydney Cricket Ground today.

His superb 143 enabled West Indies to reach 254 for nine in their second innings at the close of the fourth day — a lead of only 77 with one day remaining.

West Indies have already won the five-Test series by taking the first three in convincing fashion.

Slumped

After reaching 167 for two and almost wiping out the 177-run deficit, West Indies slumped in almost identical fashion to their first innings when nine wickets fell for 80 runs.

This time they lost seven wickets for 87 runs in the last two sessions of play, clinging desperately for survival in the closing minutes with their last two batsmen at the crease defying an Australian spin onslaught.

Australian captain Allan Border, who took a career best of seven for 46 on Thursday, was again the main destroyer along

with leg spinner Trevor Hohns, taking three wickets each.

Normally a stop-gap spinner, but aided by a turning pitch, Border spun circles around the West Indies batsmen and took the vital wicket of century-maker Haynes and later added those of Roger Harper and Malcolm Marshall.

Haynes almost, single-handedly salvaged West Indies' pride with his aggressive hitting and his 11th Test century, his second in the series, included 16 boundaries.

Border's three for 48 made him only the third Australian, after Bruce Yardley in 1981-82 and Bob Holland in 1984-85, to have taken 10 wickets in a Test against West Indies — and significantly all three were spinners.

West Indies were soon in trouble when they began their innings under an overcast sky. With only 17 on the board veteran opener Gordon Greenidge was out for four when pace bowler Merv Hughes took a fine return catch.

The paceman then featured in another West Indian dismissal, taking a well-judged running catch in the outfield to dismiss

Richie Richardson for 22 off the bowling of Peter Taylor.

Hughes' bowled with fire and control on the placid wicket that provided little assistance for the faster men, while his new ball partner Terry Alderman was forced off the field with a hamstring injury early in the morning.

With Haynes punishing the Australian bowlers at one end, Hooper, who fell to Border for naught in the first innings, provided good support while still struggling for form.

Hooper and Haynes put on 111 together before Hooper fell to Hohns for 35, brilliantly caught by Dean Jones on the deep.

West Indies wiped out Australia's lead by tea with the score on 178 for three, but just when it appeared a draw was within reach, the visitors collapsed like a deck of playing cards.

Captain Viv Richards started the procession when, with only four to his name, he played a strange one-handed shot trying to hit Hohns out of the ground but managed only to find Taylor at extra-cover.

The West Indies late order batsmen provided little resistance against the spin, with five wickets falling for 56 runs.

With three full sessions of play remaining, West Indies were left with only Curtly Ambrose, not out on four, and fellow fast bowler Courtney Walsh, on six, to attempt to stave off defeat.

Scoreboard

WEST INDIES 1st innings 224.

AUSTRALIA 1st innings 401.

WEST INDIES 2nd innings

G. Greenidge c and b Hughes 4

D. Haynes c M. Taylor b Border 143

R. Richardson c Hughes b Taylor 22

C. Hooper c Jones b Hohns 35

V. Richards c M. Taylor b Hohns 4

A. Logie c P. Taylor b Hohns 6

J. Dujon run out 9

R. Harper lbw b Border 12

M. Marshall c P. Taylor b Border 4

C. Ambrose not out 4

C. Walsh not out 6

Extras (lb 4ab 1w) 6

Total (for nine wickets) 254

Fall of wickets: 1-77, 2-56, 3-167, 4-188, 5-198, 6-225, 7-232, 8-244, 9-247

Bowling: M. Hughes 18-6-29-1

(1w), T. Alderman 2-0-6-8 (3ab), S. Waugh 3-0-10-0 (1ab), P. Taylor 29-4-91-1, T. Hohns 33-10-69-3, A. Border 17-2-48-3

Batting time: 361 mins

Overs: 102

Lewis jumps to 57th straight win

HOUSTON, Jan. 29. (UPI) — Two-time Olympic long jump champion Carl Lewis competed for the first time since the Seoul Games and won his 57th straight competition, while Jackie Joyner-Kersey easily won the 55-metre hurdles yesterday to highlight the first Houston Chronicle Indoor Games.

Lewis, who won four gold medals at the Los Angeles Olympics and two gold medals in Seoul — the 100 metres and the long jump, cleared 26 feet, 9 inches on his first attempt in his first meet of the season.

Joyner-Kersey, who captured gold medals in the heptathlon and long jump at Seoul, won the 55-metre hurdles in 7.46 seconds, well ahead of runner-up Dawn Bowles 8.07.

Lewis and Joyner-Kersey were among nearly 20 members of the US Olympic team who participated in the first indoor meet in Houston since 1980.

Several were not as fortunate as Lewis and Joyner-Kersey.

The biggest upset came in the men's 55 metres where Burrell, a junior at the University of Houston, beat a field that included Floyd Heard, Jamaican Olympian Raymond Stewart, 200-metre Olympic champ Joe Deloach and Stanley Floyd.

Burrell finished in 6.09, just edging Heard at 6.10. Stewart was third, Deloach fourth and Floyd fifth.

Another US Olympic gold-medal winner, Kevin Robinson, finished third out of three runners in the 400 metres. Robinson competed on the 4x400 relay team in Seoul.

Others, though, were successful. Randy Barnes, who last week set a world indoor record in the shot put with a mark of 74-4 1/2, won the event yesterday with a toss of 70-2 1/2, more than two feet better than runner-up Augie Wolfe.

Wolfe threw 67 1/2 while Texas A'm's Mike Stulce marked 67-6 1/2 to qualify for the NCAA Indoor Championships.

Two time world champion Greg Foster captured the 55-metre hurdles in 6.99, ahead of Cletus Clark.

IAAF announces stringent regulations for S.Africans

SINGAPORE, Jan 29. (UPI) — The council of the International Amateur Athletics Federation announced today stringent regulations for South African athletes seeking to compete for an adopted country.

In the final session of the three-day council meeting, the 23-member body ruled athletes from a suspended country may compete in international events two years after acquiring citizenship in the new nation and three years after officially renouncing the former. The new regulations are subject to ratification by the IAAF Congress.

Although the mandate applies to any suspended country, IAAF president Primo Nebiolo said it was specifically drawn up with South Africa in mind.

Nebiolo noted the tough issue was particularly relevant to

South African runner Zola Budd, whose inclusion in Britain's 1984 Olympic team sparked a furor. She would have to return to Britain and satisfy the new requirements if she wishes to compete in top meets, he said.

The council, however, ruled an athlete may compete in domestic competitions in the country of new citizenship and lesser international events after a minimum residence of only one year.

The two-year mandate applies to the Olympics, world championships, world cups and other major international competitions.

"During the period of residence, the athlete may not return to a suspended country member for a total period greater than three months per year," the delegates said.

suffer for it. But solid contributions from their middle-order batsmen prevented any embarrassment.

Arrive

The visitors, who lost the toss and were sent in to bat, named leg spinner Abdul Qadir and medium pacer Sikander Bakht in their side although they did not arrive in Christchurch from Sydney until the afternoon.

Qadir had planned to begin his tour late and Sikander is a replacement for Wasim Akram who was forced out of the tour by injury. The pair were chosen to give them match practice before the first Test beginning in Dunedin on Feb 3.

A bright 89-run third wicket

partnership in 83 minutes between Aamer Malik and Javed Miandad rescued Pakistan after both openers had been dismissed cheaply.

Pakistan slipped to 108 for four when Aamer Malik was out for 48 and Miandad for 44 but another good stand of 73 between Salim Malik, who made 69, and Rameez Raja, 46, lifted the innings again.

Scoreboard

PAKISTAN 1st innings

Shoaib Mohammed c Gernon 9

Moin-ul-Atiq c Gernon b Hadlee 2

Aamer Malik c Nattall b Roberts 48

Javed Miandad lbw Flanagan 44

Salim Malik b Flanagan 69

Rameez Raja b Nattall 46

Imran Khan run out 17

Salim Jaffer not out 6

Sikander Bakht not out 4

Extras (lb 4 nb 9) 13

Total (for seven wickets) 258

Fall of wickets: 1-8 2-28 3-107

5-180 6-210 7-247

Did not bat: Aaqib Javed, Abdul Qadir

Bowling: Hadlee 17-6-40-1 (3ab), Roberts 14-0-74-2 (3ab), Flanagan 16-2-53-2 (3ab), Nattall 12-2-48-1 (1ab), Priest 17-5-39-0

CANTERBURY 1st innings

D. Boyle not out 21

B. Harris not out 3

Extras (ab-1) 1

Total (for no wicket) 25

To bat: P. Kennedy, P. McEwan, R. Latham (captain), M. Priest, R. Hadlee, L. Gernon, C. Flanagan, A. Nattall, S. Roberts

Bowling to date: Imran Khan 6-3-6-0, Aaqib Javed 6-1-17-0, Abdul Qadir 1-0-2-0 (1ab)



Jarallah (right) and Anando Fernando: first home

Abdullah. "That was the first I knew of it." His first turn at the wheel of the impressive royal boat was on the afternoon before the race, and that was not too successful. "It's a little embarrassing," he grinned endearingly. "We ran out of petrol for one engine and had to be towed back."

Prince Faisal had been recruited in much the same way. "My brother called me a week ago, and said he was coming down here to race," he said. "He asked me to join him, and I said yes."

Impressive

Simon Khoury was determined to pull in racers from as many different countries as possible. Unfortunately, the frequent cancellation of the Dubai race made this a little difficult for the Kuwaiti racers, and for some reason the numerous Emirati racers are generally unwilling to travel.

There can be no doubt that it was an expensive exercise for all involved, but Khoury and Commander Iliopoulos made certain that a team spirit was created. The palace provided boats for a tour of the course the day before the race, and the King and princes themselves were relaxed and happy to talk, and to help wherever possible.

Fantastic

It was the princes' first taste of the sport. "I was told about a week ago I'd be coming down here to race," explained Prince

section in racing, but I think it comes down to that people here have been very helpful, and have encouraged them to come," said Prince Abdullah.

Prince Abdullah reacted cautiously to suggestions for the future participation of racing professionals in this race. "It's nice when it's at our level. It's too early for the big guns to come in and take over."

"It's the first time that my brother and I have competed directly against each other, although he has been co-driving in some of the rallies, but that still isn't direct competition."

The race committee also paved a new direction in the sport in that they invited professionals from outside, not to race and take all the prizes, something that would not be impossible as the sport is still in very early stage here, but instead to help organise the race and to give flavour to the event. Tim Powell and Derek Lloyd both gave their advice and support to the event, and their help undoubtedly helped to make the race slicker.

"It is important that we thank King Hussein, Simon Khoury, and everyone who helped us or who played a part in organising the race," said Mishaal Al Jarallah.

"We want to thank them for holding the race, and although it isn't possible for us to know the names of everyone who helped us, we want them to know that we appreciate their help."

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